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# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1887.

No. 254

## The Week.

THE year ended for Madras most disastrously. The following telegram reached Calcutta last night :—

“Madras, December 31.

The most awful catastrophe that has ever been known here occurred this evening. A fire broke out simultaneously at each side of a large circle of temporary buildings erected in what is called the Band Stand enclosure of the People's Park where the annual fair is being held. It occurred at a little after six o'clock when the enclosure, measuring about two hundred yards in diameter, contained thousands of people of all classes. There was a sudden rush towards the four or five entrances and a block resulted so that when the fire came round to the entrances a great many people were burnt to death while many others were suffocated. The fire lasted only a quarter of an hour, but in that time some most heart-rending scenes were witnessed. The Europeans present worked with great energy dragging the natives from the fire and endeavouring to allay the panic. The Commander-in-Chief and the first Prince of Travancore were inside the enclosure a few minutes before fire broke out, but both happily escaped. The loss of life must amount to nearly three hundred persons burned to death and as many have suffered severe injuries. The fire engines were on the spot promptly but the whole place was burnt before they could be got to work, as water was scarce. A number of soldiers who were present aided materially in dragging out the injured persons. The police were present in large numbers, but nothing could prevent the loss of life, the fire spread with such great rapidity. Various reports are current as to the cause of the fires; and incendiarism is suspected, as the fire started in two places about the same time. It is possible, however, that the outbreak on one side of the enclosure which followed so suddenly on that of the other side, was due to the rush of the panic-stricken crowd upsetting the lamps. Two European or East Indian women are reported among the dead and some European children are missing. In an hour after the fire broke out and when bodies of Police, 100 soldiers and others could be organized, the injured persons were carried to the general hospital some quarter of a mile distant. The temporary buildings burnt down were booths of wood roofed with *culian* leaves erected as stalls for the disposal of fancy goods. Only one quarter of these were saved.”

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THE New Year's Day Honors are :—

Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint the undermentioned gentlemen to be Companions of the Order of the Indian Empire :—Colman Macaulay, Esq., Bengal Civil Service; Sardar Jiwan Singh, of Buriya, Honorary Magistrate and Jagadar, Umballa; John Lockwood Kipling, Esq., Principal of the Mayo School of Industrial Art, Lahore; Franz Kilehorn, Esq., late Bombay Education Department; Rai Mehta Panna Lalji, Minister of the Udeypore State; Brigade-Surgeon Busted, Indian Medical Service, Madras, (Retired); and Pestonji Hormusjee Cama, Esq., of Bombay.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer the title of Rai Bahadur, as a personal distinction, upon the following gentlemen :—Pandit Radha Kissen Kol, Wazir of Ladakh; Lala Ram Kishen, of Kashmir; Baboo Roy Joy Kissen, Honorary Magistrate, Patna, an Baboo Kailas Chandra Mookerji, Registrar, Bengal Secretariat.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer the title of Khan Bahadur, as a personal distinction, upon the following gentlemen :—Ghulam Muhammad, Bashir Ahmad, and Tajammul Husain, sons-in-law of His Highness the Prince of Arcot; and Sayid Abdul Fattah, Moulvi lately of the Elphinstone High School, Bombay.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer the title of Rao Bahadur, as a personal distinction, upon the following gentlemen :—Govindrao Ramchundra Garud, Vice-President,

Dhulia Municipality; Beherdass Vihardass Desai, Member of the Nariad Agricultural Committee; and Rao Takht Singh, of Bedla, in Meywar.

MESSRS. DILLON, M. P., O'BRIEN, HARRIS, SHEEHY, REDMOND and CRILLY are being tried at Dublin for conspiracy. Mr. DILLON has already been called upon by the Queen's Bench, Dublin, to furnish security for good behaviour. Bail has been given, as also notice of appeal.

THE Marquis of HARTINGTON has declined both the Premiership and the Leadership of the House of Commons, in place of Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL resigned. His Lordship believes that he will be more useful to the Conservative Government outside the Cabinet.

FALLING the Marquis, the Leadership of the House of Commons has been offered to Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH. Mr. W. H. SMITH, Secretary of State for War, is also thought of in this connection. Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL is, however, being coaxed to rejoin his places.

THE Bulgarian Deputation has arrived in England. Lord IDDESLEIGH does not approve of the election of Prince NICHOLAS of Miogrelia, and is in favor of the Prince of Oldenburg. The Foreign Secretary of State, however, promised to do the utmost compatible with existing treaties for the Bulgarian nation.

THE study of human character by heels and soles of shoes has been dignified by the title “scapology.”

PHOTOGRAPHY has so far advanced in Germany that a projectile is being reproduced in the course of its flight. The photographs even shew the head of condensed air which precedes every shot.

THE remittances to the Home Treasury from 1st April to 25th December 1886, amounted to £6,880,700, out of the Budget estimate for the twelvemonth £13,531,508.

MADRAS ought now to have rest. Sir GRANT DUFF has been replaced by the Right Hon'ble ROBERT BOYCKE, and the Hon'ble H. E. SULLIVAN has resigned.

THE Ministerial Question at Hyderabad has been settled for the present by the appointment of Colonel C. H. T. MASHALL, Judge of Jallunder, as Confidential Secretary and Adviser to the Nizam.—The visit of the Viceroy revives the *Hyderabad Record* from the present year. The paper was suppressed by the Resident.

IT is proposed to start a monthly magazine under the name of “English Opinion on India” at Poona, or the Voice of England on India. It will “furnish to the reader, opinions of leading statesmen and views of the English Press, and magazines on Indian questions and literary and scientific and other selections.”

ON the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction, the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to sanction a grant-in-aid of Rs. 50 a month to the Malad Technical School in Midnapore. The

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

Maisadal Zemindars have endowed the School with Rs. 790 a year. The Government grant is too small for the "sound and practical course of instruction for artisans" which it requires thereby.

THE Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to exempt Baboos OBHOY CHURN DASS, HEM CHUNDER KERR and G. NANDA MOOKERJEE of the subordinate executive Service, from the operation of the 55 years' rule for another year, 1887. The first, we believe, is indispensable in the Akbari Department of the Board of Revenue, the Civil Service of these days boasting no administrative acquaintance with the Excise. The second is expected to give satisfaction in the collection of the Income Tax in the 24 Pergunnahs. The third is a brother of Baboo JUGDANAND MOOKERJEE.

AT a church at Willenhall, Staffordshire, in the middle of November last, upon a couple presenting themselves to be married, the clergyman put the usual question, "Wilt thou have this woman for thy wedded wife?" The bridegroom promptly and loudly responded "No," and there left the matter and the church. He had the prudence not to wait for the rejoinder of the lady's friends. To his friends his explanation was simple. A year ago he had been grossly jilted at the last moment by his intended bride. He had nevertheless continued to woo her and had conquered her at last—only for the purpose of paying her back in her own coin and was glad to have done it successfully. This is wooing with a vengeance, indeed.

A LONDON merchant having been a faithful reader of two or three London newspapers for a period of fifty years, lately invited the proprietors to a magnificent banquet, at which he said that the reading afforded by the papers had been the most agreeable diversion of his long life during half a century. A fine idea, capable of infinite development. Thus it would be a perfectly legitimate use of riches and pay homage to letters to invite periodically the owners and conductors of your favorites in the Press to an annual dinner or a quinquennial fete. The more precious Jubilees of silver and gold are too much of a good thing for this Iron and even Brazen Age. We of this country rarely live fifty years, and there is scarcely a journal so old. Besides, a decade of these days is worth a century of the olden time.

THE following compose the new Legislative Council of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh:—"Officials: The Hon. J. W. Quinton, Mr. J. Woodburn, Chief Secretary, Mr. A. McConaghey, Commissioner of Lucknow, Mr. G. E. Knox, Legal Remembrancer. Non-Officials: Mr. T. Conlan, Barrister, Raja Pertab Narain Singh, Pandit Ajudhya Nath, Syed Ahmed, Khan Bahadoor, C. S. I., and Rai Durga Paushad Bahadoor of Gorakhpur." Who is the Raja PERTAB NARAIN SINGH? It was given out that Raja UDAY PERTAB SINGH of Bhinga and Mr. ATEN of the *Pioneer* had been fixed upon. Both were eligible, though the former might not join the Council till the Civil Service Commission was over. We fail to understand the absence of the names of both the Baron of Oudh and the WATER of the Indian Press.

THE death of Mrs. URSULA LUCY BATHFLORE is noticeable on account of her age. She was born at Tranquebar in 1780 and died at Madras on the 26th December 1886, having lived 106 years. She may be said to have outlived old age.

"Though so old, she was, up to a few days ago, in perfect health, and had the use of all her faculties to a remarkable degree. She was able to move about her house with tolerable ease, with the aid of a stick, and her eyesight was remarkably good. She had lost all her teeth, but, extraordinary to relate, fine sharp teeth were beginning to grow, the points being quite visible. Her hair had become quite gray many years ago, and, strange to say, it latterly began to turn black again."

She married a soldier, had fourteen children, sixteen grand-children, 33 great grand-children and 9 great-great-grand children. The youngest of her children is a pensioner for over twenty years.

THE Rev. J. UBANK, Vicar of Christ Church, Cockermouth, applied for protection of the Magistrates for persons who came to his church to be married, from the throwing of rice and other things which had got to such a pitch as to amount to a positive battery. Order was passed for the police to give protection, on notice.

To us Eastern Aryans, it is interesting to observe our Western brethren share this rice nuisance at weddings. It is a survival of an antique Orientalism. They have carried it along with them through all their wanderings to the ends of the earth. And they charge us with being too conservative, too much wedded to our old ways! No! we are both in the same boat, or rather in the same weird archaic palace of glass, and so placed in it as to make it suicidal for us to play at pelting each other with stones. In fine, we are—barbarians all, and no mistake.

PUZZLES and charades having lost novelty, a new attraction and excitement is provided for the mass of clientele of the popular journals. This is no less than a literary plebiscite of the democracy of intelligence!

"The *Idea* taking a plebiscite of its readers and awarding prizes to those whose opinion was affirmed by the majority, has lately been put in force by *The Pall Mall Gazette* with reference to journalism. The subject of last week's 'Pall Mall' puzzle was to answer the following questions, and we have added the winning answers in brackets:—(1) The best English newspaper (*Times*); (2) the best daily newspaper (*Times*); (3) the best weekly newspaper (*Spectator*); (4) the best Liberal newspaper (*Daily News*); (5) the best Conservative newspaper (*Standard*); (6) the best comic newspaper (*Punch*); (7) the best 'society' newspaper (*Truth*); (8) the best religious newspaper (*Christian World*); and (9) the worst English newspaper (*Police News*). We are further told that: '*The Times* obtained an overwhelming majority both as the best English newspaper and as the best daily newspaper. *Lloyd's* runs *The Spectator* very close as the best weekly paper, while *The Saturday Review*, *The Graphic*, and *The Illustrated News* are close on the heels of their more austere rival. *The Daily News* and *The Standard* were far ahead of all competitors in classes 4 and 5, while Mr. *Punch*, of course, polls nearly all the votes as the best 'comic' paper. Who could have doubted it? May we congratulate Mr. Labouchere on the wide popularity of *Truth*, which is far ahead of its elder brother, *The World*? *The Christian World* is the most popular religious paper, while *The Police News* and *The Evening News* run a hard fight in class No. 9, *The Police News* just winning."

This, at all events, is a more exalted dissipation than *bric-a-bac* hunting, or treasuring up the rags of Grub Street, or collecting the cast-off slippers of decayed low comedians.

AN influential meeting of Hindus and Mussulmans in support of the National Congress was held at Sylhet on the 16th December, Babu NABA KRISHNA DASTIDAR, Zemindar, presiding. The first Resolution, expressing the sympathy of the District with the movement, was proposed by Moulvi MASADAR Ali, Pleader, J. C., and seconded by Dr. SUNDARI MOHUN DAS, M. B. The second Resolution was specific and more important. It opines, rather than demands, that the Government of the country should have introduced into it the representative element. It was moved by another Mussulman and a zemindar into the bargain also, Syud ABDOL JELIL and seconded by a Hindu Chaudhuri Babu RADHA NATH. Yet another Mahomedan, one of the learned class, Moulvi ABDOL KARIM, seconded by Babu PRASANNA KUMAR GUHA, moved that in reconstituting the Legislative Council no less than two-thirds of the members be chosen by local bodies, and that the Council so constituted have right of interpellation. At the motion of Babu TARAKISHORE CHUDHURI, M. A., B. L., seconded by Moulvi NASARULLA, Babus PRASANNA KUMAR GUHA, BEPIN C. PAL, and JOY GOBIND SHOME, M. A., B. L., Vakil, practising in the High Court, were appointed Delegates of the District to the National Congress. Babu PRASANNA KUMAR DE, B. A., spoke in support of this proposition. A committee consisting of five Hindus and two Mahomedans were formed to instruct the Delegates thus appointed. The Head Master of a local school, Babu JANAKINATH SEN, seconded by Babu ANUND KISHOR DATTA ROY, B. L., and supported by Babu ROMESH C. BOSE, pleader, proposed that the open Civil Service examination should be held simultaneously in England and India and that the maximum age of the competitors be raised to twenty three years. A rather uncalled for and almost unmeaning Resolution was moved by DULAL Babu, seconded by Babu SARAT C. DATTA, Pleader of the Munsiff's Court, and supported by Babu SITA MOHAN DAS, another Pleader of the Munsiff's Court, not only expressing full confidence in the Bengal National League, but also pledging to support the said League by every constitutional means. In the enthusiasm of the moment it was forgotten that if corporations have neither bodies to be kicked nor souls to be damned, mere meetings are still more nebulous existences. The pledges of an occasional public meeting like this, are of no practical value—mere waste of breath. Finally, Babu LOKE NATH SURMA moved, seconded by Babu MAHENDRA NATH DAS, Zemindar, for the publication of the proceed-

ings in the Press. All these Resolutions were, of course, carried *unanimously*, and we may take it, with befitting national demonstrations. We observe one little omission, however, namely, the absence of a provision for advising the Congress and communicating with it, and for receiving the report of the Delegates. The question of expenses of the journey seems to have been discreetly avoided. Apparently, the Delegates were to pay their own way to and fro, being selected with an eye to such capacity and willingness. They might at least expect thanks for their pains and their "bleeding," though. If the meeting could not command the grace of gratitude by anticipation, there ought surely to have been provision for thankfulness after consummation. The significance of the meeting lay in the union of Hindu and Moslem.

### Editorial Notes.

THE Meingoon Prince was anxious to call on Lord DUFFERIN when at Pondicherry, and therefore asked permission of the French Governor. But the Local Governor could not sanction the visit without instructions from "Home." It is a great pity that Lord DUFFERIN could neither see His Majesty, THELAW nor the Prince.

THE Austrian ladies have for sometime been in revolt against their so-called lords in the matter of dress. They have their own way, in spite of male protest. A certain article of millinery called, with doubtful propriety, a "dress-improver," is now the rage. It is not reported to be elegant or to show the wearers to advantage. It has certainly become the male eye-sore. By this time the gentle sex ought to have wearied of it. So far from that, they are not prepared to abandon it, at either the remonstrance or entreaty of the gentlemen. They stick to their ugly love with the more obstinacy for the interference of the males. The feud has proceeded to the most bitter lengths. Failing to reason or cajole their fair ones, the men have resorted to curious methods of gaining their aesthetic ends. They conspired to lay an ambush against the enemy we mean the angels. On a fixed day in Vienna, every dog that had an owner appeared dressed in a "dress-improver." Great must have been the sensation in society as vexation among the butt of his ridicule.

LIKE the Barisal guns in Bengal, the singing sands have for some years been the puzzle of the Atlantic States of America. The phenomenon first attracted notice from the discovery at Manchester, Mass., of a "singing Beach." The favoured tract is not extensive, being no more than a fifth of a mile in length. This part of the sands is kicked into music by walkers, much like the modern invention of chairs and stools that startle the uninitiated sinner, conscious of having no music in his soul, into the confused but comforting reassurance of being fundamentally musical. Nor is it a faint sing-song that is emitted. By digging your stick into the sand you could raise a tune that might be heard at the distance of seventy yards above the break, break, break of the roaring surf. Such a discovery was not likely to be neglected in the United States as it might be in Asia. Commencing with the life-service, the inquiry was taken up by science and the public, with the result that the Massachusetts Manchester sands are not alone in their musical glory. Seventy-four such other places have been found in America itself and thirteen besides in other parts of the globe. The mystery has been unravelled, though it scarcely was necessary, we think, to wait for science to conclude, that the sounds are due to the mutual friction of loose small angular particles of dry sand. If the same conditions of fineness and angularity of particles with dryness and looseness existed all over the earth, as they are sometimes found between the high and low tide limits, the whole-earth would resound with such sweet sounds in constant repetition so as to suggest to our yearning ears internal the music of the spheres, to say nothing of hearing Old Triton &c.

From harmony, from heavenly harmony,

This universal frame began

From harmony to harmony

Through all the compass of the notes it ran,

The diapason closing full in Man.

UNHAPPY mortals as we are, our very blessings become our ruin. The very improvements in the conveniences and comforts of life, by their miscarriage or abuse, produce calamitous consequences. Even in this liability, however, there is cause for consolation in the fact that the

alleviation is always near. On the whole, there is progress and augmented happiness. Here is as fine an illustration as might be found of civilization supplying a much needed want—affording a most welcome relief—while our perversity turns the comfort into torture—until the enterprise and skill of modern science again comes to the rescue:

"A wonderful surgical operation was performed at the Massachusetts General Hospital by Dr. Maurice H. Richardson, of Boston, recently. About a year ago John McCarthy swallowed a set of artificial teeth. The passage of food to the stomach was almost wholly prevented, the patient grew emaciated and weak, and it became evident that unless relief was had he must soon die. Dr. Richardson made a transverse cut in the left side of the abdomen, through which the man's stomach was drawn out and then cut open, when by the insertion of his arm to the elbow Dr. Richardson was able to reach and remove the teeth. The internal opening was then closed with fine silk and the stomach replaced, the external cut being also closed with stitches. The whole operation was completed in 45 minutes. The patient is doing well, and his complete recovery is now considered little less than certain."

That is very satisfaction. It is a relief to know that the patient was so thoroughly relieved. But look at the man! How the Yankee did he eat his teeth. Or was set somebody else's? If his own, he may well be afraid of such palatable edibles. Talk of stomach! The unfeathered Saxon bipeds beat the fowls hollow. What a capacious catholic stomach is theirs! They stick at nothing, whether their stomach will or no. All sorts of things have been found within them, as in the inside of alligators, even to pins! And then their earth-hunger is well-known. If some starving tribes satisfy Nature's craving with eating of the very substance of our planet, our enghatened friends devour kingdoms and can digest continents.

A CORRESPONDENT, signing himself "Civis," writes of an enthusiastic and well-attended meeting of the ratepayers of Monirampore and Ganti wards of Barrackpore municipality. The letter has been lying for some weeks on our table—allowed to remain there by our tenderness, not by reason of any inherent importance of subject or novelty of accessory circumstances. The subject, indeed, is of the locality, local. Then the writer, though he writes not ill, is so careless as not to mention the date of the meeting! We will, notwithstanding, give the remaining purport of the letter, and only hope that the writer and his friends immediately concerned, will buy a copy of this issue, if they are not subscribers, instead of being a trouble to our patrons. The meeting was held in the Monirampore School-house, under the presidency of Baboo KALLY PROSUNNO CHATTERJEE, to protest against the extension to the locality of that Part of the Bengal Municipalities Act, namely, Part IX, which provides for the construction and clearing of latrines. The poorer part of the ratepayers was largely represented at the gathering, not was the Mahomedan element just now at a premium in our movements—wanting, a leading member of that community taking an active part in the proceedings. The name of Babu KEDAR N. MAJUMDAR, the local member on the municipal board, who had strongly opposed the proposed measure at its meeting, was received with loud cheers. The First Resolution, moved by Baboo MOHENDRA NATH GUPTA and seconded by Baboo NUNDO LAL BANNERJEE, expresses the alarm of the inhabitants at the attempt to introduce the provisions of the 9th Part of the Act among a poor community. The Third Resolution, moved by Baboo BIRESUR DEY and seconded by Baboo GRIBHUSAN NEOGI, is the most important as going into the root of the matter:

"That this meeting is strongly of opinion that Part IX is unsuited to the habits and mode of life of the great bulk of the residents who resort to open lanes and gardens, &c., and also by reason of heavy penalties, liable to be incurred for an omission to supply lists of persons to the Commissioner, under Section 334 of the Bengal Municipal Act."

The other active promoters of the opposition to the Privy movement, are Baboos DAMODER GOPTA, ANNADA PROSAD GHOSE, and SASANI BHUSAN DEY and Shaikh MUCKBULOY—we are not sure if that is the proper reading. Who, we wonder, are the Privy Councillors of the Municipality. Who is their leader?—the Commissioner deepest in the Privy nuisance? We need scarcely say, we sympathise with the delicacy of the Hindus and Mahomedans who will have none of it—for a place with ample room and verge enough for the primeval system of dry conservancy to which our people are accustomed.

THE Europeans, with all their courage, seem to Orientals almost unmanly in their fear and horror of death. Death's heads, which are used in the West to frighten young and old, are, in India, religious utensils and even ornaments and drinking vessels to certain sects and

orders of *religieux*. As a rule, Europeans do not come near the sick, the duty of nursing being usually left to paid matrons from the hospitals or to nuns. Diseases like typhus and scarlatina, cholera and small-pox, provoke a struggle between the suffering and their friends and neighbours, whether the one set should be forthwith banished from home and neighbourhood or whether the other set should flee. In India, such calamities bring out the best side of our people; the humanity and attentions of relations, friends and neighbours towards the sick, reach even to the point of nuisance, and sometimes work positive harm. Yet, surely, they are evidence of tenderness. Surely, there is a quiet heroism in the devotion of the healthy to the afflicted and the doomed, regardless of catching the same fate. It is only in the East probably that such an incident as the following, reported by the *Sind Times*, is mostly confined.

"Mr. Shanahan had been laid in his grave and his sister was lying dead in the house. The boys asked to be allowed to watch by the body of their master's sister, as the last act of respect to the beloved dead. They were dissuaded, they were warned of the fatal infection, and yet they insisted upon remaining awake the whole night and watching by the cold, stiff body of Mr. Shanahan's sister. Mr. Shanahan's sudden and untimely death is mourned by a large circle of friends and admirers, and pupils."

That is no solitary instance. No doubt, Indians might be found to avoid the dying and the dead, but the reason for it is different from what foreigners would be apt to imagine. Their shyness in such circumstances is not usually due to callousness, but to caste reasons—to fear of impurity and the danger of incurring the obligation of ceremonial purification. Nevertheless, wherever there is any special reason for personal attachment, the Hindu will calmly stick to his friend or teacher or master, accepting all the consequences. So early as 1843, this was shown by the chivalry with which the Bengalees attended on DAVID HARE in his last illness from cholera—then invested with all its early terrors as a veritable Plague—and afterwards bore on their shoulders the dead body of the great Mlechha and deposited it as a sacred relic in the grave in the heart of the Hindu town, all the Sastras and the millions of gods notwithstanding.

And they will repeat the process, or give analogous proof of regard in the case of any other man, Christian or Jew, Hindu or Mussulman, official or non-official, who cares to reach their hearts! Nor are the Mussulmans any different from Hindus. There is not a Hindu or Moslem deserving of the name who will not any day act in a similar situation as the late Mr. SHANAHAN's pupils and friends have done. Indians may not attend a meeting to perpetuate the memory of their benefactor, but they will do their duty by him according to their lights and in their own way. And it is this people who are said to be so devoid of gratitude as to be without the word!

THE great Congress has come and gone, and we congratulate our panic-stricken brethren of the Anglo-Indian Press on their good luck in finding their heads on their necks after the event. We hope Government House will also be found in its proper place and in its usual integrity at the northern end of the great Plain before Fort William. The noble stream that flows past our city, is not, we trust, in conflagration! It was a narrow escape, no doubt. For, it was not a matter of the Bengali Baboo, but the phalanx of United States—or, if that sound displease, let us say, of all India. Although the trysting place was in the midst of the malarial rice swamps of Bengal, all the Provinces of the Empire had sent down their contingents. The whole country, from the heights of Kupaon to the head-land of Comorin, was represented. All the races to the boldest, except the naked Kookies and wild Todas, had joined in the conclave. Some of us would have liked to see the meeting held in the maidan, but that would have been too much for the nerves of some of our White fellow-subjects.

Jesting apart, the thing is a grand success—beyond the most sanguine expectation. Whether for numbers, or for the area of country or the races represented, or for talent and weight, and for the nature of the deliberations, the meeting has been satisfactory from all points of

*Holtzway's Ointment and Pills.*—Abscesses, Erysipelas, Piles. —Unvarying success attends all who treat these diseases according to the simple printed directions wrapped round each pot and box. They are invaluable to the young and timid, whose bashfulness sometimes endangers life. Though apparently local, diseases of this nature are essentially blood diseases, but a little attention, moderate perseverance, and trifling expense will enable the most diffident to conduct any case to a happy issue without exposing secret infirmities to any one. The Ointment checks the local inflammation and alleviates the throbbing pains. These directions also clearly point out when and how Holtzway's Pills are to be taken, that their purifying and regulating powers may assist by adjusting and strengthening the constitution.

view. We give the first inaugural proceedings in another column. The Congress then sat in conference for three days successively on the great subjects of representative councils, the Civil Service, &c. Next week we will give fuller account of that work. It is impossible within so short a time to master the nomenclature of the numerous representatives of the various races present. All we can now do is to present to our readers the numbers of the Delegates from each district. They are as follow:—

Oudh:—Lucknow, 11; Unao, 1; Pertabghur, 1; Bara-Banki, 1; Fyzabad, 7; total 21.

N. W. P.:—Allahabad, 13; Balia, 3; Gazeepore, 1; Agra, 5; Benares, 12; Almora, 1; Moradabad, 3; total 38.

Central Provinces:—Nagpore, 4; Khandawa, 1; total 5.

Madras:—Madras, 13; Ganjam, 2; Vizagapatam, 2; Godavery, 1; Kona, 1; Nellore, 1; Bellary, 6; Anantpur, 5; Kurnool, 3; N. Arcot, 3; Chingleput, 2; Tanjore, 2; S. Arcot, 1; Combatoore, 1; Malabar, 1; total 47.

Bombay:—Bombay 16; Tanna, 2; Sangli, 1; Ahmedabad, 4; Poona, 11; Sattara, 6; Sholapur, 2; Ahmednagar, 1; Belgaon, 1; Hubli, 1; Baroda, 1; Surat, 5; total 51.

Punjab:—Lahore, 5; Umritsar, 2; Umballa, 3; Gurudaspore, 1; Dera-Ismail-Khan, 2; total 13.

Bengal:—about 200.

It will be seen that we appear today in an enlarged form. We must here stop today, but not before wishing our patrons and friends, one and all, a Happy, Happy New Year, and many, many returns of the same!

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1887.

### THE YEAR.

THE year 1886 is pre-eminently the Queen's year, said we in speaking of the Jubilee. And, verily, the entrance into the Fiftieth Year of Her Majesty our Queen's beneficent reign, is the brightest association that, like a halo, will shine round the year that is gone. Preparations are making on all sides for celebrating the completion of the half a century with demonstrations of joyful loyalty befitting the occasion. Great enthusiasm prevails, and ruling politicians as well as the subject population of an Empire on which the sun never sets, are alike determined that the Queen's Jubilee shall be a memorable commemoration. It is not perhaps good form in a customary review of the Old Year to formulate our suggestion towards the best manner of honoring the Queen's Jubilee in India. But the deep loyalty which the subject inspires, our conviction that the occasion may be turned to the highest political account, and our fond desire that a golden opportunity should not be thrown away, encourages overt speculation—invites speech. Our silence would be the less pardonable in view of the well-known inaptitude of the British for effective ceremonials, we mean effective to the Oriental mind. They have been for over a century the rulers of India, without yet catching the secret which alone makes sovereignty over Oriental peoples truly popular. They have their own formal way of celebrating joyous occasions, which fails to appeal to the imagination of Eastern races. England is now an Asiatic rather than a European Power, and it is of the utmost political importance that she should bring herself to adopt Asiatic customs and forms in her political relations to the people of India. Mere expenditure of gun-powder, military displays, illuminations, or even showering of honors, good as they may be, will, therefore, be no impressive celebration of an event like the Queen's Jubilee. Some tangible acts of goodness to the Princes and people—the restoration of a Prince—the rendition of some territory—the abolition of hateful imposts—the release of prisoners—the grant of some new political charter conferring on the people rights for

which they have long cried—such acts of real beneficence to the people are required to emphasize the unique significance of the occasion. These are Oriental methods of celebration, and they go far more to inspire and impress Oriental subjects, to draw their hearts to the sovereign and to strengthen their loyalty and attachment, than the stale customary displays of mere splendour and power, without sentiment or meaning.

The year 1886, as it will be remembered for the auspicious commencement of the Golden Year of the Reign of our beloved Empress VICTORIA, will also be memorable in the annals of India for some sad associations. To the Government of Lord DUFFERIN, the year has proved a long painful travail over the Burma business. The annexation of Burma formally took place on 1st January, but it has been all but a paper annexation. The people have offered persistent resistance to the British occupation. A sanguinary war has prevailed throughout the year, without, as yet, any signs of subsidence. The sufferings of the Burmans, in the course of their heroic defence against a foreign yoke, were past description, nevertheless, they still hold out at the year's close as at its commencement. For all their bravery and love of independence, they are spoken of as "dacoits." That brand of a nickname is affixed, no doubt, to keep up the delusion that the British have been received into the country with open arms by the people at large. Vain effort! The delusion has been exploded beyond any chance of revival. The British know it to their cost that their path has lain through fire and blood. Incalculable has also been the British loss, in life and treasure. Some of the most precious lives, and untold treasure have been paid as the penalty for an act of miscalculation undertaken in heyday of spirits, in mere lustiness of strength, as in clear lust of territory, revenue, and political and commercial advantages, and there is hardly any saying when this luckless business will end.

Indeed, British arms and diplomacy have, in these latter days, fallen on evil times. Their unsuccess and humiliation in Burma are only a repetition of the chapter of incidents in Cabul. The Boundary Commission have, after all, been recalled, and the delimitation of an imaginary frontier will now be done with the aid of maps and charts at home. That has certainly the merit of being safe, only the pity is the wisdom did not come before millions of pounds and thousands of lives were sacrificed, through a long series of years, at the altar of a policy of mingled panic and pretension. The Government have, by a hair's breadth, escaped a like fate in Thibet, but not of their own prudence. The Thibet Mission has been abandoned, because countermanded from Peking. China had been prevailed upon to sanction the peaceful visit of a single British representative. In our usual way, we were prepared to swell the number by way of giving the envoy scientific companions, and to strengthen him by giving him a military escort, with any number of camp-followers. The entry of such a little host was sure to be resisted. If the strangers had been permitted or had they forced themselves, it is doubtful whether they would have returned to tell their wondrous tale of Thibet. They would not have been British or followers of the British, if, in a poor Asiatic country, they could not be insolent enough to be shockingly used. As it is, they have lost an adventure, but they keep their necks. They owe their safety to the ambition of the Foreign office. The annexation of Burma rendered it necessary to conciliate the great Power on the North which claims,

and even exercises, a vague suzerainty over the whole Indo-Chinese Peninsula. And China now withdrew her reluctant consent to the Bengal mission to Lhasa, after having been advanced to the gates of that country. Thus, happily, another possible course of blunders and of waste has been prevented.

At home, the Irish question has proved the rock of British politics, on which has foundered ministry after ministry. There have been changes of Government from Liberal to Conservative, although the question of questions is as far from solution as ever. In the meantime, great distress and sullen discontent prevail in Ireland, and coercion hardly helps in keeping order. The past year was, also marked by the progress in England of the socialistic democracy. In London and other industrial centres, turbulent demonstrations were made by the working classes, attended with considerable damage, inflicted on private property. The Bulgarian Revolution at one time threatened to involve England and other Powers in the throes of another great conflict, but moderate counsels prevailed, and the abdication of Prince ALEXANDER averted an appeal to arms. Much uneasiness prevails in Egypt, in consequence of the protracted occupation of that country by the English. This has also probably led to a *rapprochement* between the Porte and the Czar upon which ominous forecasts are naturally being drawn by political prophets.

The waste incidental to a vigorous Forward Policy in India could not fail to affect the financial position of the Empire, already so much depressed by the depreciation of silver and of trade. And Lord DUFFERIN's Government could not think of any better device for meeting the crisis than by resort to an impost which has been condemned by the wisest political experience, and, indeed, in respect to which past Governments had almost pledged that its re-imposition was not lightly to be thought of in future. The re-imposition of the Income Tax has filled the country with dissatisfaction and distress from one end to the other. Not that there is any want of sympathy on the part of the people for the difficulties of the Government. But the times are hard all round, and they can scarcely afford to bear any encroachment upon their scanty resources. Some of the provisions of the law itself, notably that relating to the liability of dwelling houses to the assessment, have gone far to aggravate their discontent, till the relentless administration of the law, in the hands of overzealous officers, has filled the cup of their woe to overflowing. It must, however, be said, to the credit of the Government, that they have not been idle in looking for other methods for effecting equilibrium between the income and expenditure. The charge of extravagance has often been laid at their doors as well as of *insouciance* with regard to the Exchange difficulty, and they have so far listened to the popular views on those subjects as to appoint Commissions for investigating them. The appointment of the Public Service Commission to report on the best methods for throwing more wide open the service of the state to qualified natives of India, is also a measure of the present administration from which much good is naturally expected. But in hoping for the best, the people hope against hope. Their attitude is scarcely one of sanguineness. Their bitter experience of the past does not leave much room for hope that the necessities of their case will be met to any considerable extent. Indeed, there is only too much reason for fear that the results of those Com-



missions will fall short of the people's demand. The Finance Committee, for instance, have found their way to recommend some great economies, but what public opinion in India wants is that the administration should be cheapened by the gradual infusion of the native element to an extent which has no chance of acceptance at the hands of the ruling authorities. That Committee, it is curious to note, was constituted in the same breath with orders for adding two millions to the military expenses. With regard to the Exchange Commission, the persistent attitude of the Lords of the Treasury at Home renders the chance of bi-metalism as small as ever. The whole question is so obscure that we do not know that we should regret this. The Public Service Commission seem also to be weighted with instructions which are likely to operate against a free and unrestricted throwing open of the Service to the people of India. Some of these great problems of Indian administration have lately occupied the attention of the Indian people assembled in a National Congress, and let us hope that the voice of the Congress may have some salutary effect upon the counsels of the Government.

There have been few, if any, changes in the *personnel* of our rulers. Lord REAY has but just taken up the portfolio in Bombay, and the commencement of his administration augurs well for the future. Madras has at last bade goodbye to Sir M. GRANT DUFF, whose reminiscences of the country he ruled so long can scarcely be of the pleasantest. The relations between a people and their rulers could not be more unsatisfactory than those which all through subsisted between Sir M. GRANT DUFF and the Madrasees, till the trenchant exposure of what are now famous as the "Madras Scandals" came in to embitter the latter days of his reign, and still further darken his Indian reputation. Sir RIVERS THOMPSON will leave Bengal in spring, and his succession by Sir STEWART BAYLEY is looked forward to with hope. Sir ALFRED LYALL rules the North-West and Oudh for another year's extension. In the Punjab, Sir CHARLES AITCHISON continues to win golden opinions like Sir CHARLES BERNARD of Burma, and the services of both have properly been recognised, by the appointment of the one to the presidency of the Public Service Commission, and of the other as the ruler of both the Lower and Upper Burmas. The retirement of Sir RICHARD GARTH from the bench of the High Court of Bengal lost Calcutta a hale and hearty society-man, and gave the country the chance for a Chief Justice. Mr. ILBERT, Law member of the Supreme Council, also retired before his time to the congenial obscurity of an *Amlah* of the Parliament at Home. Mr. ILBERT's fine presence and scholarship adorned the high office he held, and, though without any marked individuality or force, he had goodness and grace. He certainly gave country some rest. His name will not soon disappear for the accident of his connection with a famous Bill, and for the contumely he bravely suffered at the hands of his countrymen for that accident.

The year 1886 was marked by the continued activity of Indian political organizations. Our provincial and rural Associations showed unabated vitality. The questions round which political agitation mustered its strongest force, were those of the periodical migration of our rulers to their mountain retreats, the admission of natives to volunteer service, and the reconstitution of Legislative Councils upon a representative basis. The representative constitution of the municipal and local Boards has proved a tolerable success. It has certainly given an impetus

to political life amongst the people, and the people naturally consider that an extension of that principle in the administration can only be attended with the best results. That the time is ripe for a discreet advance can scarcely be doubted by any one who saw the sittings of the National Congress at Calcutta which closed with the close of the year. We were scarcely prepared for the moderation, unanimity and order with which the proceedings of the Congress were conducted under the able presidency of Mr. DADABHAI NAOROJEE. There were assembled large numbers of delegates from all parts of India, the farthest not excepted, and they all conducted themselves so thoroughly well, they spoke and argued and deliberated with such marked ability that the realization of the patriot's dream of an Indian nationality is brought well within the range of practical politics. Indeed, the Congress, as it was the last and greatest political event of the year in the Indian world, is likewise the consummation and concentration of all the political learning which has so long advanced with such rapid strides. The National Congress is an event of the greatest importance, and the success which has attended it is full of good augury for the people. It gave the coping stone as it were to such scattered organizations as those at Jhinkergatcha, Lahore, and other places where thousands are wont to meet to deliberate on the questions affecting their happiness and prosperity.

The educational policy of the Government seems to have come to a head during the year, and there was much deliberation as to how technical education could be effectively advanced. But if technical education is to march hand in hand with literary education, all we can say is the Government must be prepared for a great deal more expenditure than it appears from all circumstances to be. In the meantime, two Arts Colleges in Bengal would have been doomed, but for the liberality of Maharani SHURNOMYEE, and the public spirit of the municipality of Midnapore. As if Government contemplated an attack on high education, there has been wholesale "plucking" of candidates at the Entrance Examination of the Universities of Calcutta and Bombay. Stern public dissatisfaction was evoked by these unprecedented results, and a persistent agitation of the subject set on foot in the press, to which are due perhaps some reforms lately introduced into the system of examination of the Calcutta University, at the instance of Mr. COTTON and a small band of friends.

For the first time, after some years, it is our pleasure to record a season of good crops. There have been bumper harvests in Bengal and other parts, despite the partial damage done here and there by the floods. The prices of food-grains have already gone down, and the downward tendency will be maintained for some months more. This has at last lit up the rayyet's face with a smile which had not been seen for many a day. The struggling middle class would also have a pleasant time of it, were it not for the Income Tax and the other vexatious impositions which come in the train of a civilized rule.

Death, as usual, was busy in high places, and middle and low. Two of our premier Feudatory Princes, who had lived in rivalry all their lives, continued their rivalry, as it were, unto the bitter end. Holkar and Scindia died within a few days of each other, and were followed by the old Maharaja of Cashmere. In Cashmere, the succession of the young prince proved the signal for a revolution in the administration, the Bengali, who is the eyesore of British politicals, falling

into discount. Among more minor Chiefs, disappeared the Maharaja of Puducotta, who squandered his substance in every shape in maintaining an Alsatia of priests and panders in the Palace, while poor SASHIA SHASTRY strove to preserve the state by his able and enlightened administration. Our loss in Bengal has been of a unique kind. Vernacular literature was, as it were, marked for a special prey, and some of the greatest lights of the Bengali language were snatched away. AKILAY KUMAR DUTT, who may be styled in a sense as the father of Bengali literature, DWARKANATH VIDYABHUSAN, the reformer, if not the founder, of political journalism in the Vernacular, and lastly, RAJ KRISHNA MOOKERJEE, poet, linguist, and sociologist, one after another went the way of all flesh, leaving gaps not easily to be supplied. The disappearance of the Rev. Mr. C. H. A. DALL, who had become like an institution in Calcutta, and of Pandit RAM NARAYAN, the Punjab Vakil, in the hey day of a promising life's prime, are also losses which have been felt.

### THE EUROPEAN COMPLICATION.

THE fear of a European complication is not allayed so long as the throne of Bulgaria is left vacant. An interregnum is in itself an evil, and, if suffered to continue for any length of time, it is almost sure to prove calamitous. The circumstances which caused the vacancy in that country, are too fresh to need more than a passing notice here. What Russian valour and money had succeeded in severing from the Ottoman Empire, was formed into autonomies by the united wisdom of Europe, and Prince ALEXANDER was the child of fortune selected to rule over Bulgaria. Somehow or other, this Prince incurred the displeasure of the Czar, and was one night suddenly kidnapped from his capital, to the surprise of all Europe. Though suffered at last to return to his subjects, he was permitted no longer to rule over them. A pressure too great for him to bear left him only one course to adopt, and that was the resignation of his kingship. He resigned and a Regency at present carries on the affairs of the state. It is now more than a month that Prince ALEXANDER abdicated his throne, yet nothing definite seems to have been done to appoint his successor. One candidate after another was nominated, but no selection has yet been made. It would seem that the Sobranji—the Parliament of Bulgaria—was willing and prepared to accept any candidate whom Russia might put forward and whom Europe would recognize. And yet why is the vacancy not filled up, and the cause of anxiety, which has been exercising the minds of European statesmen for sometime past, removed? We fear it is not for want of an eligible prince favorable to Russian interests that the interregnum is not put an end to. It would not be difficult for the Czar to name a candidate who enjoys his entire confidence and will be acceptable to the European Powers. The truth is that other objects than the election of a mere friendly Prince have determined the Czar to prolong the interregnum, and until he gets guarantees for securing these objects, the vacancy is not likely to be soon filled up.

Ever since the days of PETER the Great, the real founder of the Russian Empire, the Moscovite policy has been to speedily extend the Russian domination both in Asia and in Europe, so as to arrive finally at the goals of the national ambition. One of these goals is Constantinople. That bright posses-

sion ice-bound Russia has ever coveted with no unnatural eagerness. She has already absorbed in her vast Empire some of the fairest provinces once owned by Turkey; and every reader of the European history knows that the expansion of Russia in the South East of Europe is nothing more or less than the dismemberment of the Ottoman Empire.

That Empire has already shown signs of decadence. Her councils are no longer guided by that consummate wisdom and statesmanship which was the admiration of the Christian Sovereigns,--her arms no longer sustained by that daring valour and soaring genius which struck terror to Europe. A succession of alien ministers and generals betrayed her confidence and helped to reduce her to the state in which we now see her. Turkey's loss was Russia's gain; and the Sick Man would have expired long ago but for the interference of some European Powers in his behalf. It is *l'Etat Ottoman* and the *belle ville* of CONSTANTINE which the Moscovite covets, and the present crisis in Bulgaria offers a convenient opportunity for securing a free passage to that devoted city. "He demands, therefore, that before he submits the name of any candidate, the Sobranji shall authorise the Regency to place Russian officers at the head of the Bulgarian Army, and to transfer to the Czar the control of Bulgarian foreign policy. Once armed with these two concessions, the Emperor will feel safe, for no Prince could then either confederate the Balkan States, or direct his troops to resist the passage of a Russian army through the mountains so nearly made impassable by SULIEMAN PASHA."

The present political situation of Europe is more than ever favorable to the accomplishment the Czar wishes. The late unhappy Franco-German war has for ever scattered to the winds what was once known as the Balance of Power in Europe. Since that Epochal event, the Great Powers have armed themselves to the very teeth and beyond their means. They fear one another, and are apprehensive of the outbreak of hostilities among themselves. The recent increase of her army clearly shows that Germany is ill at ease for fear of France; while the separation of Alsace and Lorraine has become a worse Waterloo for Gallic vanity, and probably a thorn in the flesh in the French body politic too. By her recent war with Prussia and by the formation of the German Confederation, the position of Austria is now no longer what it was before. England does not at present retain that ascendancy which she not long ago maintained in European politics. By her unification, which she owes to the genius of Count CAVOUR and to the assistance of NAPOLEON III, Italy has gained immensely in importance among the European Powers and is courted by them as a powerfully ally. Turkey is still looked upon as a respectable Power, but, left to her own resources, she can hardly cope with her colossal neighbour. Such being the political state of Europe, the Czar, owing to his vast resources and magnificent army, is the veritable master of the situation; and, as such, no one dares to touch his susceptibilities. Even the great BISMARCK watches with vigilance and almost with fear, against any occurrence which might induce Russia to strike up an alliance with France in view of a European Explosion. Under such circumstances, it seems unwisdom on the part of the Bulgarian Regency to send deputation to England or to any other European Power, to court alliance for opposing the demands of Russia. We fear that, in the end, their prudence will get the better of their patriotism and induce them to submit to the demands

of the Czar, and thus spare the world of the consequences of a war which we shudder at to think.

## THE NATIONAL INDIAN CONGRESS, 1886.

### FIRST PUBLIC MEETING OF THE DELEGATES.

The first public meeting of the delegates who had arrived in Calcutta from various parts of India to take part in the discussions of the National Congress, took place on Monday the 27th December, at 3 in the afternoon, at the Town Hall. The assemblage was a very large one, the following being among those present:—

Rai Kunja Lal Banerjee Bahadur, Babu Narendra Nath Sen, Mr. R. D. Mehta, Mr. H. M. Rustomji, Babu Protap Chunder Mozumdar, Mr. N. N. Ghosh, the Hon. Kally Nath Mitter, Mr. Robert Knight, Mr. U. C. Kastagiri, Mr. Jotendra Nath Roy Chowdhry, Mr. Jogesh Chunder Dutt, Mr. P. C. Mullick, Mr. H. C. Mullick, Mr. Janaki Nath Ghosal, Mr. Jagannath Khannah, Maharaja Jotendro Mohun Tagore, Raja Rajendra Narain Deb Bahadur, Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, Babu Durga Churn Law, Dr. Mohendro Lal Sircar, Babu Shama Charan Law, Mr. H. J. S. Cotton, Mr. A. O. Hume, Babu Jotendro Nath Tagore, the Hon. A. M. Bose, Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, Mr. K. M. Chatterji, Dr. Trailokya Nath Mitra, Kumar Nil Krishna, Kumar Binai Krishna, the Hon. Peary Mohun Mukerji, Baboo Joy Kissen Mookerjee, Baboo Raj Koomar Sarbadhicary, Baboo Soorendro Nath Bannerjee, Mr. Monmohun Ghosh, Rajah Ram Pal Singh, Mr. Chandra Varkar, Nawab Reza Ali Khan (Oudh), the Hon'ble S. Subramanya Iyer, the Hon'ble Dadabhai Naorojee, Mr. Anand Chárlu, Mr. G. Subramanya Iyer (Ed. *Hindu*), &c., &c.

The Hon. S. Subramanya Iyer, (Madras), proposed that Rai Rajendralala Mitra, D.L., C.I.E., do take the chair, pending the election of a President. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chandra Varkar (Bombay), and carried unanimously.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said that the first duty he had to perform on the present occasion was to receive and welcome the delegates who had arrived from different provinces to take part in their deliberations. It was a most gratifying duty, and he most gladly welcomed those gentlemen to that meeting and to Calcutta. In the name of his colleagues who had organised this Congress he repeated the welcome and in the name of the citizens of Calcutta he begged to tender them their most cordial thanks for the frank manner in which they had extended their right hands, and the cordial manner in which they had responded to the invitation. It had been the dream of his life to see the scattered units of his race coalesce and act together, that, instead of living merely as individuals, they might some day be able to band together and to live as a nation. (Cheers.) In that meeting he beheld the evidence of such an occurrence, and he hoped the nation would not be far distant. It might not be left to him to realise the sight, but it was gratifying to all to see assembled there delegates from the north, the south, the east, and the west, all Indians anxious to join in deliberating for the good of the country. There was a time when their forefathers lived as a single race. Circumstances led to their disruption and kept them apart, and it was, therefore, not a matter of small rejoicing that they should have surmounted difficulties and met together. In his enthusiasm for his race he had forgotten the Mahomedan gentlemen who had graced that meeting. They were as welcome as his own people, and he looked upon their presence that day as a guarantee that this was truly a National Congress.

Different they were in origin, manners, religion, and customs, but they were not the less members of the same race. (Cheers.) They were subjects of the same sovereign, and their good or evil depended entirely upon the state of the Government and the laws which were passed in this country. Whatever was beneficial to the Mahomedan was equally so to the Hindu, and whatever was injurious to the former was equally injurious to the latter. Could they then say they were not equally interested in the welfare of the country? Nations were not made of sects, but of units in one political band. They were of the same political band, and therefore constituted one nation. He dwelt upon this as the dawn of a better and purer day for India. He looked upon this as a quickening of the national life. Henceforth he hoped they would all live as a nation, united one and all, to promote the welfare of their mother land. It was absurd to suppose there would be a perfect union. A great deal had been written lately about the impropriety of this Congress. Scandalous absurd stories had been told against them of their being disaffected people, of their being dependent on wirepullers and professional agitators. They would not say a word about those who termed them disloyal. But there were others who were kinder in their tone, and therefore more injurious in their action. They had been told they were trying to force the hands of the Government. He did not clearly understand this. He had occasionally cut in at a hand at whist, and he knew that in certain positions, it was an object to force the hand of an opponent. But were they really forcing the hands of their opponents the Government? Did they really look upon the Government as their opponent? Did the Government desire that something should be kept secret and away from the public? No—those who said so libelled the Government. Again, they were told that they should have confidence in the

policy of the Government. Away with such an announcement. Never have a policy of confidence. If they had full confidence in the Government they could not adopt a policy or the semblance of a policy. They had perfect confidence in the Government, and therefore it was absurd to talk of a policy of semblance. Government had already adopted a resolution for an enquiry. Did they for a moment believe that in assembling there that day they were in any way forestalling the decision of the Government? Government had said the Public Service Commission was of a judicial character, and that the whole business would depend upon the evidence produced before it. The meeting of the Congress was intended to prepare evidence, and not to forestall the Government. There were some other arguments used, but all were of the same stamp. The subjects which the Congress would deal with were of a varied character. The first would be the reconstitution of the Councils. He looked upon this as the corner stone of the whole fabric of the political constitution. Nothing could be done, nothing could be said, nothing could be advantageous as long as these councils retained their present constitution. All other things dwindled into littleness when placed beside this preliminary question of the reformation of the Councils. Time was when the old Councils existed; when there was no representation, and when laws were promulgated from the closed doors of the Council Chamber. But after that Government wanted co-operation, and the first step taken was to bring in a gentleman of experience and of judicial light and leading. This was a poor substitute, and the Council felt it to be utterly worthless, and the Councils under which they lived came into existence, and were a great improvement upon the former. They had several representatives, but the evil was that these representatives were not representatives of anybody but themselves. They represented no one but their own good interest. They were consulted, but consulted more for ornamentation than usefulness. Some again were dummies, some took up the rôle of *apkuwaste*, but all these were not the men they wanted. They were not living under a national Government but under a foreign idiocracy. Foreign rulers, differing in habits, language, and everything that divided humanity into different sections, could not possibly dive into the feelings of their hearts and aspirations. It was impossible for them to do so. With reference to this question, there was one point which should never be forgotten, and that was the right to interpellation. At present, owing to the peculiar circumstances of the Government, there was no interchange of opinions. People were only left to guess what the other side thought after the Government had spoken on one side. Next there came the important matter of the Public Service question. In all parts of the world nations governed themselves. Now young men had to go 9,000 miles away from their homes at the age of sixteen to pass examinations, and too often they were ruined. Canada was governed by Canadians without their having to go to England to get educated; the same thing was done at the Cape, the same in Australia and Ceylon, and what was true of this was equally true of other countries. He would not go into all the other subjects which would be dealt with by the Congress, but would close by simply urging that in whatever they did, in whatever they said, of whatever they complained, they should bear in mind that moderation was of the utmost importance. Let all speeches and resolutions be moderate in tone. (Loud cheers.)

Babu Joy Kissen Mookerjee rose and said:—I have the honour to move that Mr. Naoroji be elected President of the Congress. I do not think that, because our Parsi friends did us the high honour to elect our distinguished countryman, Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, as President of the Congress held last year at Bombay, we are bound to return the compliment by electing a Parsi gentleman to the chair at the present Congress. But happily, we have in Mr. Naoroji a gentleman who would do honour to any assembly over which he might be called upon to preside. Warm devotedness to his country, a life spent in active participation in every public movement for her welfare, distinguished abilities, and singular moderation both in aspiration and expression,—what more could be desired in one whom we wish to guide the deliberations of the Congress? The task before him is far from a difficult or disagreeable one. The assembly over which we request him to preside is not one composed of village Parnells met together for the purpose of giving vent to disloyal feelings or expressing discontent with the Government of the country, but to take advantage of the Jubilee year to give expression to our feelings of loyalty to the throne, to offer thanksgiving and prayer for the incalculable benefits which have been conferred on us by her Gracious Majesty's Government, and to lay at the foot of the throne our humble suggestions for the improvement of those administrative measures which have not kept pace with the spread of education and enlightenment and with the progress of the country. No wonder that objects such as these should have drawn together distinguished gentlemen from all parts of the country, when you find a blind old man of seventy-nine, bending under the infirmities of age, taking a part in your deliberations.

Nawab Reza Ali Khan, President of the Riffa-i-Am, Lucknow, seconded the proposal and made a speech in Hindustani which, after he had spoken, was translated into English by Mr. Hamid Ali Khan. It was to the effect that in the province from whence the speaker came

Mohamedans and Hindus lived in perfect accord. His coming from a distance of 600 miles was to show that the Mahomedans there had the deepest sympathy with the objects the present meeting had in view.

The motion was then put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Mr. Dadabhoi Naoroji then rose amid much cheering, and said that he need hardly tell them how sincerely thankful he was for being placed in that position of honour. He must say he felt exceedingly proud as well as highly flattered at the compliment that had been paid him. This Congress was an event of the utmost possible importance. Here they had assembled together all classes and communities, an event which, even in the halcyon days of the old Hindu or Mahomedan Emperors, was never known. This was an occasion to which the past was as nothing. On it depended their future; whether it would be glorious or inglorious rested in their hands. It was their good fortune that they lived under a rule which made it possible for them to meet in this manner. Here they met under the British Government, to say whatever was in their minds without the least hesitation. (Cheers.) Such a thing was possible under British rule only. Was this Congress one of sedition or rebellion against the Government? (Loud cries of "no, no, no"); or was it another stone on the foundation and building of that empire? (Cries of "yes, yes.") The Congress represented security to life and property under the British rule in India. British rule and British masters had taught them to understand what they were, and what their future political aims ought to be. It was to them they owed their education, because they were sincere in their declaration, made half a century ago, that India was placed by Providence in their hands to administer beneficially. All were aware that that rule was a great blessing to India. They had been brought from darkness into light. Under the Asiatic rule the political condition was the people for the King, while under this free Government the rule was the king for the People. This was the new lesson learnt after thousands of years. Had the Government belief in what they now said? Did they say the Indians were loyal to that rule? They did, and the reasons were gratitude and self-interest. With reference to this point the speaker went on to quote a remark of Lord Ripon, that what was good for India was good for England. The speaker then quoted another remark of Sir Bartle Frere's to the effect that even the educated classes in the country were well affected towards the Government. He next quoted from a despatch to the Secretary of State in which it was stated that the people accepted the British rule without any need to an appeal to arms, because the Government did justice, and because much material good had been done to the country. That at once settled the question that the Government believed that the people were loyal.

Turning then to the objects of the Congress, the speaker combated the idea that it should turn its attention to matters of social reform. There were many subjects of social reform which demanded attention, but these would be handled at the proper time and place. The Congress had met as a political body. Advisedly they had met together to represent to their rulers their political rights. It must be understood that this Congress was not a social Congress, but one for the discussion of political reforms and for laying before their rulers what they wanted politically. The speaker then, with these preliminary remarks, went into and discussed the work of the past Congress. Since then some progress had been made. The first request to give them a Royal Commission was refused, but a Parliamentary Committee was appointed instead, so that they were not quite disappointed. Another resolution was one in which they asked for Legislative Councils for the N.-W. P., the Panjab, and Oudh. The N.-W. P., had got one; and it was to be hoped that the other provinces would also be satisfied. The Public Service Commission was now sitting, and that proved that the Government were sincere. The speaker then went in detail into the concessions made by the Government from 1834 up to 1858 when the Queen's Proclamation was issued. This brought him to the question of the introduction of the elective principle into the Councils. In this one more advance had been made since the last Congress, as they were trying to place before their rulers what they thought was possible for the introduction of representative election into the Councils. The speaker then went on to enlarge on the necessity there was for India to be represented in Parliament; the extreme poverty of the people of India, the excessive cost of the foreign agency in India. He concluded by saying that they had seen what the last Congress did, and he hoped they would meet together again next year and congratulate themselves upon further progress in reference to the resolutions which they had passed and would pass this year.

Mr. Naoroji then read a telegram from Haidarabad in which the Mahomedans of that city expressed entire sympathy with the objects of the Congress, and deeply regretted that their Calcutta Mahomedan brethren were holding off. They trusted, they would still join. He also stated he had received several telegrams both from Hindus and Mahomedans from different parts of India, expressing in the same manner sympathy with the objects of the Congress.

He also announced that the Committees of the Congress would meet for the next three days in the rooms of the British Indian Association to consider and discuss several matters and resolutions.

A vote of thanks to the chair was proposed by Maharaja Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore and seconded by Baboo Joy Kissen Mookerjee. Hearty cheers were then given for the Queen-Empress, the Viceroy and the President. The meeting then terminated.

### A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta

WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,  
on Thursday, the 6th January 1887, at 3 P. M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. Baboo Omritonath Mitter to move that the Commissioners do reconsider the orders passed at the Meeting held on the 30th September, sanctioning the construction of a jute godown at No. 58 Nimtollah Ghat Street.

2. The Chairman to move that the Commissioners proceed to appoint from among their number a Town Council and Standing and Special Committees, as the period for which the present members were appointed, will expire on the 7th January.

3. Recommendation by the Town Council that the Resolution referred back to them "that the Suburban Commissioners be requested to pay half the expense for relief connections with the main sewer in Circular Road for suburban mikassi drain, for which an estimate amounting to Rs. 1,207 was sanctioned," be confirmed.

4. To confirm the proceedings of the Water Supply Extension Committee, at Meetings held on the 19th November and 14th December.

5. To confirm the proceedings of the Bustee and Tank Committee, at Meetings held on the 23rd November and 14th December.

6. To consider certain suggestions of the Special Committee appointed to consider the new draft Municipal Bill, at a Meeting held on the 3rd December.

7. To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council, at Meetings held on the 20th and 27th November, 4th, 11th and 18th December.

ROBERT TURNBULL,  
Secretary to the Corporation.

### HAMILTON & CO'S

Latest Designs in Gold Bangles.

The Acorn Bangle, (England)	...	Rs. 60
The Thistle Bangle, (Scotland)	...	" 60
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The Indian Bamboo Bangle	...	" 32
The Victoria Bangle	...	" 100
The Cleopatra Signet Bangle	...	" 54
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The Flexible Curb Bangle	...	" 115
The Etruscan Ball Bangle	...	" 32
The Good Luck Bangle	...	" 54
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The above Company's Steamer "Tyone" affords a pleasant and short Sea Trip to Chandbally and back, the journey occupying four days only. This Steamer has excellent accommodation and good Table. Leaves Calcutta every Wednesday and returns on Saturday.

In conjunction with this Steamer the Company's Steam Launches and Barges fly between Chandbally and Cuttack, affording an opportunity to passengers for the through trip to Cuttack and back.

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1887.

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CASES.****MEERSCHAUM PIPES.** A splendid as-  
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largest in India. Prices from As. 12 to Rs. 20  
each.**CIGAR AND CIGARETTE CASES.**—In  
solid leather—Calf, Russia, and Morocco. All  
Prices.**TOYS! TOYS!!**A magnificent and certainly one of the largest  
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Young Folks of all ages. Amongst these we  
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Dolls, &c., &c.

All prices, and to suit Children of all ages.

Orders by the Vice-Chancellor and Syn-  
dicate of the Calcutta University.**NOTICE.**It is hereby notified for general in-  
formation that a Convocation of the  
University of Calcutta for conferring  
degrees will be held at the Senate House,  
College Street, on Saturday, the 8th  
January, at 3 P.M.Graduates of the University in Ac-  
ademic costume are admissible on pre-  
senting themselves at the Senate House  
at 2 P.M.**CHARLES H. TAWNEY,**

Offg. Registrar.

SENATE HOUSE,

The 21st December, 1886.

**NOTICE.**The undermentioned surplus lands no longer required by the Commissioners for the Town  
of Calcutta, will be put up for sale by public auction, at the Municipal Office, on Monday, the  
17th January 1887, at noon.

Lot No.	LOCALITY.	Area more or less.	REMARKS.
		B. K. Ch. S. ft.	
1A	Land in front of No. 126 Upper Circular Road ...	0 0 14 0	
1B	Do. " 125 " ...	0 0 5 20	
1C	Do. " 124 " ...	0 0 6 20	
2	Do. on the east of No. 74 Grey Street ...	0 0 6 0	
3A	WARD No. 3. Filled-up drain in front of No. 60 Grey Street ...	0 0 1 29	
3B	Do. " No. 62 " ...	0 0 1 23	
3C	Do. south of No. 61 " ...	0 0 4 6	
4	WARD No. 5. Surplus land No. 27 Prosunno C. Tagore's Street ...	0 0 1 40	
5	Do. in front of No. 3 Jora-bagan Street ...	0 0 6 4	
6	Do. " No. 5 " ...	0 0 0 36	
7A	Surplus footpath in front of No. 29 Prosunno C. Tagore's Street ...	0 0 7 23	
7B	Do. " No. 30 " ...	0 0 7 10	
7C	Do. " No. 31 " ...	0 0 13 29	
7D	Do. " No. 32 " ...	0 0 4 6	
7E	Do. " No. 33 " ...	0 0 1 4	
8A	Do. " No. 4 " ...	0 0 3 10	
8B	Do. " No. 5 " ...	0 0 3 19	
9	Land on the south of No. 367 Up- per Chitpore Road ...	0 1 6 32	
10	WARD No. 8. The north-west corner of No. 16-1 Champatola Lane ...	0 1 0 0	
11	No. 9 Chunam Gully ...	0 1 8 0	
12	WARD No. 9. Land on the north of No. 18 Raj- chunder Sen's Lane ...	0 1 4 28	
13A	Do. south of No. 36-3 Okhil Mistry's Lane ...	0 1 13 20	
13B	Do. " No. 36 " ...	0 0 6 30	
14	WARD No. 10. Land on the east of No. 3 Warris Bagan Lane ...	0 0 12 0	
15	Do. west of the bathing Plat- form at Warris Bagan ...	0 0 14 0	
16	WARD No. 14. Land at Newgypooker depot No. 59 Jaun Bazar Street ...	0 4 13 42	
17A	Do. on the east of No. 34 Newgypooker West Lane ...	0 3 12 0	
17B	Do. " No. 36 " ...	0 3 12 0	
18	Do. " No. 32 " ...	0 3 13 0	
19	Filled up drain on the South of No. 8 Dutt's Lane ...	0 0 8 0	
20	WARD No. 15. Land on east of No. 12 McLeod St.	0 0 6 40	
21	Do. " No. 14 " ...	0 0 3 40	
22	Do. west of No. 9 " ...	0 0 13 40	

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1887.

No. 255

## The Week.

NO less than 402 persons are now reported to have died at the People's Park Fair at Madras on the closing day of the expired year. The fire was no work of arson, but is reported by the Police to be the result of pure accident. Most of the deaths are due to panic. The people crowded at two gateways, although two more were available.

The Governor and Lady BOURKE visited the persons taken to the hospital. His Excellency suggested the Sheriff to call a meeting in aid of the sufferers.

WEDNESDAY, the 16th February 1887, has been recommended as the day for celebrating the Queen's Jubilee.

TOWARDS the end of this month, a meeting will be held in connection with the Lady Dufferin's Fund. The Indian contribution from 1st October to 31st December 1886, amounts to Rs. 4,064. We make the last announcement, free—our poor mite in aid of the Fund.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of the N. W. Provinces comes to Calcutta next week, on a visit to the Viceroy.

BABOO ASUTOSH MOOKERJEE, M. A., F. R. A. S., Prem Chand Roy Chaud Student, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, for his mathematical contributions to that body. A mere B.boo in his own country, after all.

THE Public Service Commission have broken into Sub-Committees, and hold examinations severally in several districts. That may be a convenience to the members, but will it be carrying out the commission strictly? The Commission may as well draw up their final report on the written answers of the 184 questions circulated.

ITS distance lends enchantment to the view, the Poet has long since sang. And, indeed, a very small dose seems enough in that behalf, when we find the *Behar Herald* and the other business inform its readers—

"Raja Hrendra Krishna Deb Bahadur the famous Zemindar of Bengal died on——"

Every proposition has its exceptions, even the statement that makes Death a leveller not excepted. Our lamented Sobhabazar Reis could scarcely derive more glory by being than he has, done by ceasing—at the hands of an enlightened press.

DRAUGHTS of the pure well of English undefiled stand a good chance of defilement from the devils of the press. But when the average itself is a *bogus* affair, or at least a decocted and doctored rink, of various linguistic ingredients, what will the imps not reduce to! Indeed, between the imps above and the imps below—between the composers and the compositors—the literary and the more mechanical labourers—the thing is often changed out of recognition. Often the result is funny beyond expectation. Sometimes it is grave beyond endurance. All other times, it is simply "proper." The following, which we read in the same paper, belongs to the last category—

"A London correspondent writes:—'The Royal commission on currency question commenced its sitting last week. Its proceedings are *in camera* and consequently newspaper representatives are not admitted.'"

*In camera* to be sure. It may be devilish dog Latin, but it is sound scriptural sentiment. If it has any meaning, the inspired writer or rather his presenter, in the press, may well be supposed to anathematise gold. Who does not remember the divine proclamation against the plutocrats how the camel will sooner pass through the eye of a needle than a rich man shall enter Heaven?

Accordingly, the austere London Correspondent regards as right cancerous the proceedings of this commission. The whole currency question—with gold at bottom—is a cancer and no mistake. Who does not see it, or feel it? Who, we wonder, will apply the remedy? A great surgeon and strong is required.

THE Commander-in-Chief still continues in Burma. He paid a return visit to the Buddhist Archbishop. The interview is said to be "eminently satisfactory."

THE other news from Burma is that the Kyemendine Prince, "who has long been one of the buttresses of the insurrection in the Sittang Valley," has been killed and his adherents captured or put to the sword. The unopposed occupation of the Ruby Mines District on the 27th ultimo, is also announced. The "dacoity," notwithstanding, continues.

THE members of the new Legislative Council of the N. W. P. are, by an order in the Gazette, permitted to bear the title of "Honorable." What is the good of it all, if they are all not be—Honorable? So they are all all honorable men for the nonce.

KEROSENE oil will lose much of its popularity if it be the fact that it is the cause of diphtheria. The State Board of Health in Connecticut has concluded that at Meriden where diphtheria was rife, it was found that not a single case occurred in any house that was lighted with gas or candle. In this country the oil is the cause of many accidents and is otherwise injurious to health. But its cheapness overcomes all such obstacles.

THERE has been a change in the Governorship of Herat. Naib SARWAR KHAN, the late incumbent, is detained at Cabool. Kazi SAOD-UDDIN, who accompanied the Afghan Boundary Commission from our frontiers to Cabool, is the new Governor. Why is this change?

A LADY stands first at the first professional examination of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, recently held at Dublin.

31,533 Native males and 6,157 females and 656 European males and 168 females visited the Indian Museum during December, 1886, the daily average being 1,832.

THE Nizam's Secretary and Adviser Colonel MARSHALL has arrived at Hyderabad and assumed charge of his double duty. He will be remunerated at the rate of Rs. 3,000 a month and free quarters. Does this include oil and firewood? the Bengalis would naturally ask. The *Civil and Military Gazette* thus justifies the appointment:—

"He (Colonel Marshall) entered the Punjab Commission in 1865: and, besides serving in the Executive and Judicial lines as Assistant and Deputy Commissioner and Judicial Assistant Commissioner and Divisional Judge, acted as Private Secretary to the Lieutenant-Gov-

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ernor, and for some years superintended the Chamba State during the Raja's minority. If the Nizam requires an astute, wary man of the world, with a long and tolerably varied experience of Indian affairs, both in our districts and in a Native State, His Highness is well suited. Whether Colonel Marshall has equal reason for gratification, apart from mere questions of rupees and ambition, is another affair altogether. Hyderabad politics are in anything but a state of simple calm; and the post of Secretary and Adviser to the Nizam will be the constant object of endless intrigues and unforgiving hostility."

That is, he is one of the five huddled heroes and statesmen whose Valour and wisdom maintain the Empire. And that he does not care for the post so much as the Viceroy cares for the Nizam.

THE poor Maharaja of Benares is at the present moment weighted with no less than half a dozen visitors from Europe—Prince ESTERHAZY, the Marquis and Marchioness of HUNDELEY, Lord and Lady WYNTON, and Mr. T. BURNES.

SINCE his installation in the White House, President CLEVELAND gained 50 lbs in weight, and is being treated by a doctor of the Swedish massage school. It is a movement cure thus:

"First, the doctor makes him lie flat on his back on the floor, stiffen himself out with his arms down at his side, and then raise his feet in the air with his heels together, until his legs are at an angle of 45 degrees. This is repeated several times. The next movement is to raise the feet in the same position, and move them around in the air, so that the heels will describe a circle. This is more difficult still, and none but accomplished gymnasts can do it at the first attempt. The third movement is to stretch out on the floor, with the face down, and then raise the body on the hands and toes. After this had been tried, the patient is to stand on the tips of his toes and fingers, and make motions as if he were swimming. By going through this process three times a day, at first only a few minutes and then longer, it is claimed that a fat man can reduce his flesh with remarkable rapidity."

MR. EDWARD SAUNDERS JOHN FAIRMAN proposes to start in London a weekly newspaper, in English and French, in the interest of the Mahomedans, under the name of "The Mahomedan Voice in Europe." He wants at least 1,000 subscribers paying in advance 32 shillings, each for one year. His claim to represent Islam in Europe is, as the *Journal of the Anjuman-i-Punjab* puts it, that "Fairman has been all his life a sincere, staunch friend of the Mahomedans. He has lived in Egypt and Turkey for upwards of 25 years, but on account of his pronounced political opinions (strongly friendly to the Mahomedans) he has lived in London for the last four years, sighing to return amongst his friends, the Egyptians." This is not the first time that Mr. FAIRMAN has offered to be the voice of Islam if permitted. We hope he will this time really enter appearance. If his resources are half as long and presentable as his name, he will be an acquisition.

THE so-called Tipperah case in the Black Magistracy is dragging its slow length along. It is now a lawyer's case, we fear. It is sometime before the Durga Puja holidays that the investigation commenced. Old Time has entered a new year, and yet the case has made no appreciable progress. Delay, sometimes, is dangerous to justice. Poor Sohee Bhusan by this must repent of the folly of invoking the aid of the Police. He has, at any rate, been instrumental in weeding the service of one corrupt Police officer in league with wrong doers.

THE Poona Whipping case has been taken to the High Court. Justices WEST and BIRDWOOD have called upon Captain HUGHES to show cause why the sentence of Rs. 25 fine on him for whipping two Parsi gentlemen should not be enhanced. We admit the tenacity of these Parsi gentlemen. We hope justice will yet be done.

THERE is excitement on account of the suit filed by the Collector of Pooree, in connection with the Jagannath Temple and endowments, especially for appointment of a Committee, in supersession of the Raja, to manage the Temple affairs.

THE Chief Magistrate of Bombay fined the Captain of the steam-ship *Somatra* Rs. 1,350 for carrying more passengers than his license allowed, at the rate of Rs. 10 for each excess passenger. It was a pilgrim ship from Jeddah to Bombay. The passengers at landing were counted 1,152½ but the previous day they numbered 1,181. The Public Prosecutor pointed out that the excess was much larger than in any previous case of the kind.

A CONTEMPORARY writes:—

"Private Thomas Atkins of to-day may be five foot four in his ammunition-boots, less than thirty-three inches round the chest, and hard to keep in hand; but he has still a good deal of the spirit that sent his predecessors of the Light Division up the shot-torn vineyards of the Alma. Twenty soldiers in the Nyingyan district are ordered to cross a river and burn a village. The boat in which they are to cross is pointed out to them. Unfortunately the boat has its bottom knocked out of it by dacoits. Obviously it is the duty of the party to return and point out this distressing fact to the authorities. But the party continues to go on; and a detachment of five men and a bugler, a small boy, take off their garments and proceed to swim the river; losing one man as they cross. Then, clad as was Lady Godiva on a certain memorable occasion, they walk up the bank, advance upon the village, wherein, for anything they know, there may be a hundred dacoits, and set it on fire. Luckily the village is deserted, and the dacoits are flying further into the jungle; so no one is hurt, and the little band returns naked, but not ashamed, having done what they are told to do. The idea of Thomas, whom a paternal Government has supplied with a rifle and a uniform, discarding these tridles, and running about the country with nothing on in pursuit of dacoits, is very ludicrous; but the little affair has its more solemn side, and it is impossible not to admire the reckless bravery of the four men and the bugler of the 2nd Queen's on the Sittang river."

Yes, solemn and sad side. The whole account is worthy of the unholy cause. These four naked armed whitemen swimming 'cross stream and sneaking along the bank for a better opportunity of setting fire to villages and burning down the homes of the people whereabouts Dacoits had been seen, are a fair type of savage war. Poor Tommy, we trust, is created for better things than to sack villages. What a difference is observable between the strength of the higher and that of the lower propensities of our nature! These Britons, who are not ashamed, out of the abundance of blood-thirstiness or vanity of glory, to prowl about villages and jungle like naked Indians, would, for the love of man or God, have scarcely cared to uncover themselves to the skin to save a village from conflagration.

It is reported that—

"Dr. Anderson, the head of the Veterinary Department, was, on Christmas Day, travelling near Rajkot in a bullock cart, when he was attacked by a band of sixteen Mekkranis. He defended himself for some time with his sword, but received several cuts on his hand. Eventually he agreed to get out of the cart if his assailants promised not to cut his legs. This they agreed to, and he got out. He was immediately seized and bound. The head Mekkran then said he wanted to have his children, who were in custody at Junaghur, released. Dr. Anderson replied that if they killed him it would not assist their chance of recovering the children, but that if he lived would do what he could for them. They eventually let him off, after taking all he had, including his uniform, his medals and about Rs. 300 in cash. The only thing he recovered was the gold lace belt which the leader threw back at him before starting."

The good Mekkran! He is not only not blood-thirsty but also shows moderation even in his *Loot*. He left the Doctor his lace belt, we suppose to avoid the sin of denuding him and degrading him to the estate of a perfect Piet without his pants.

As we fully expected, PASTEUR's punctuation is meeting with the same fate that KOCH's commas had experienced. His own rivals in France are doing the needful. Here is Doctor Colon or COLIN:—

"Dr. Colin, at the last meeting of the Paris Academy of Science, read a most interesting and important paper concerning Pasteur's system for the prevention of hydrophobia. He says that the statistics recently furnished by Pasteur, far from throwing light on the question, only inspire him with doubt and uneasiness. Pasteur spoke of 2,400 persons in France and elsewhere having been bitten during the past year by mad dogs, cats, or wolves. That the said persons were bitten Dr. Colin thinks is possible, but that the animals were rabid appears to him more than doubtful. He states that the great majority of the animals were most likely merely snappish, hungry, or irritated. According to official statistics, Dr. Colin reckons that the number of persons bitten in France by mad animals during the preceding year was 351. And yet Pasteur contends that during the same lapse of time he treated no less than 1,701! To explain this enormous difference between the two years one must admit that there has been an extraordinary and unprecedented recrudescence of hydrophobia among the canine race, which Dr. Colin does not believe to be the case. He also reminds us that Pasteur omitted to state the number of bitten persons who had been cauterized before applying to him—an omission of great importance, considering that, whatever be said to the contrary, cauterization is often efficacious. Dr. Colin says the average number of persons who die yearly from hydrophobia in France is twenty-six. Now, according to Pasteur himself, ten succumbed after his treatment and sixteen without it. Here we arrive at exactly the same result; the number of deaths before Pasteur's discovery corresponds with the number after it. Dr. Colin says, in presence of these facts it would be rash to pronounce on Pasteur's system or to consider it as a general prophylactic method. On the contrary, he doubts its efficacy, and feels alarmed at the consequences of virulent inoculation."

PASTEUR may be a great physiologist, but he scarcely shines as a scientific reasoner. He lacks the requisite temper. Like KOCH he is

in too great a hurry to succeed, for truth. He has a prescriptive right to vanity, of course. His treatment of facts is truly patriotic and national. If facts do not square with his views, so much the worse for them, of course.

THE following will be read with interest :—

"Mr. Gladstone has a strong hold upon the hearts of the people. Of the *Pall Mall Gazette's* insane competitions, the last was to decide the best orator, the best debater, the best administrator, the most popular, the greatest bore, the most unpopular, the most eccentric, and the most pompous among the members of the House of Commons. Mr. Gladstone 'holds the field' in no fewer than five of the departments into which our competition was divided. He not only heads the list of orators, but polls more than twice the votes given to Mr. Bright, who comes second. Again, he has more than six times the votes given to Lord Randolph as the best debater, 497 against 75. He polls nearly three times as many votes as Mr. Smith as an administrator. Again, he is voted the most popular member. There is no doubt about the winner in the 'bore' class—Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett 'takes the cake,' as they say, with Sir George Campbell as a good second. Mr. Conybeare is only a new member, but he is reckoned a rising young man—in the same class. Public opinion would possibly approve of the selection of Mr. Bradlaugh as the most unpopular member, and Mr. Biggar as the most eccentric. But Sir William Harcourt secures the highest poll in the record. He is judged the most pompous member by 517, against 85 for Mr. Chaplin. That is glory indeed. But he is third among the wits, which may console him : for praise from the readers of the *Pall Mall Gazette* is praise indeed !"

THE Director-General of the Post Office in India has promoted Babu UMACHARAN DAS, Assistant Comptroller, to the post of Deputy Comptroller of Postal Accounts vacated by the death of Mr. ALPIN. Babu GOPAL CHANDRA BOSE acts as Assistant Comptroller, pending the arrival of the permanent appointee from Aden.

THE whole of the Queen's family being required to be at home during the Jubilee celebration, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught will return from Bombay.

"THE case of BOIKUNTA DOME," says the *Statesman*, "that was before the High Court for review a few days ago, shows but too clearly, we fear, that the Local Courts cannot be trusted to administer justice impartially. It is impossible we think to read this case in which the man we have named was sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment, without seeing that the Judge evolved the evidence on which he was convicted out of his own inner consciousness. The record, so far as it has been made public, shows that there was no evidence of any kind against the man..... It is not the planter but the Magistrate, whose conduct is impeached by such a record, while so little attention does the local Government appear to have given to its history, that it positively instructed the Legal Remembrancer to press for an enhancement of the sentence, in a case that had practically never been tried !"

IN defending Lord DUFFERIN from the charge of hostility against representative institutions in India, the same journal points to his Lordship's work in Egypt, and says that his Lordship "must turn his back upon himself to be otherwise than strongly sympathetic with the desires of the people in this direction." Our contemporary is full of hope for the future, being convinced that "changes of the most vital order will take place, almost of themselves in India within the next few years, that will give the administration of the country an entirely new aspect, through the disappearance of purely official rule in favor of something better." For the groundwork of representative institutions, our contemporary points to the Municipal bodies, about which he says "it is now only perhaps that the honest opponents of Lord RIPON will discern the wisdom of the step taken by him, in insisting upon the principle of Self-Government being fully acted upon in the Municipal and other local administrative bodies, that are growing up so rapidly in the country."

IT appears from an official document, that in 1884-85 every hundred persons in Bengal paid Rs. 2.15 as license tax, while the same number of persons in Bombay paid Rs. 7.63. But the conditions of Bombay are exceptional.

THE Queen has been pleased to issue a Commission under Her Majesty's Royal sign manual, of which His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge is President, to promote the success of the International Exhibition to be held at Adelaide in 1887.—Press Commissioner.

WE reproduce the following from the *Indian Daily News* :—

"Sir,—I have observed this afternoon at about half to 2, distinct and almost constant oscillations of the earth, in the direction, N.-W. and S.-E. They stopped at about 2½, but began again with greater force at 4½, and have not ceased yet.—Yours, &c.,

E. LAFONT, S. J.

St. Xavier's College, January 7th, 1887.

The above note was received at our office at 5-45 P. M.—Ed. I. D. N."

MR. FRANCIS, formerly Agent of the Simla Bank, sued the Bank for libel for advertising his dismissal in the papers. The Lahore District Court has now—the case was instituted in June last—passed judgment against the plaintiff, mulcting him in costs into the bargain for his pretensions. His cause was pleaded by an eminent advocate, Mr. SPIRITA who was opposed by Advocate-General RATIGAN.

THE High Court has remitted the fine of Rs. 100 imposed by Mr. HOPKINS, the Magistrate of Kishnaghur, on Guard SNELLING for having unlawfully entered a reserved carriage for native female passengers. The Chief Justice holds, Mr. Justice CUNNINGHAM concurring, that the evidence recorded does not support the conviction.

WE have for sometime been hearing complaints against the Police in the North Suburban Town. The people remember with gratefulness the administration of Mr. SHUTTLEWORTH. The present D. S. should give his fellows a filip.

## Editorial Notes.

THE situation in European political affairs is far from reassuring. Von MOLTKE's speech in the *Reichstag* calling for supplies for increasing the military defences of the Empire, coupled with General BOULANGER's ascendancy in the French Republic, does not bode well for peace. As to the Eastern Question, there are rumours of a Treaty between Germany and Russia, and the Bulgarian succession hangs fire. The Porte demands a definite assurance from the British as to their eternally deferred abandonment of Egypt.

THE Finance Committee has been dissolved, but there are enquiries in certain branches of the administration in various stages of advancement, for the completion of which the services of Mr. ELLIOT, President of the Committee, will be required for another term. Mr. ELLIOT, while engaged on these further enquiries, will be styled Finance Commissioner with the Government of India, and will be aided by Colonel FILGATE and Mr. BLISS, Mr. JACOB being deputed as Secretary to the Finance Commissioner.

SEVERAL of the Local Boards in the Presidency Division have elected non-officials for their chairmen. In doing this, the members have only honored themselves, and given Local Self-Government the chance it needs. As intended for an instrument of political and administrative education for the people, the new scheme can only succeed by the lightening of official leading strings. Non-official administration has, no doubt, its difficulties and its risks, but it is precisely these risks and difficulties which are calculated to make the training an effective one. No one ever learnt swimming by theorizing on land. The truth of this is so obvious that we are surprised at the amount of misconception which prevails on the subject.

THE *Bangalore Spectator* has an appreciative article on the Mysore Representative Assembly, instituted by the late Mr. RUNGA CHARLU. Notwithstanding its imperfections, and they are not denied by our contemporary, it is something, no doubt, that Lord DUFFERIN was able to congratulate the Maharajah on having "called to his counsellers of such intelligence, influence, and authority." The move is one in the right direction, and it lies only with the people to ensure by their sympathy and cooperation the success which it deserves.

HERE is a word of cheer for the Indian farmer. It is stated on the best authority—Lord STANLEY of Preston, the President of the Board of Trade, proclaimed it in London—that India is fairly beating Australia on her own ground. The Australian wheat-growers, who pay no rent for their land, cannot compete with the Indian wheat which is



rapidly under-selling the local produce in the Southern Colonies. It killed the Russian export of wheat and is now killing the American. We have the assurance of an English contemporary that it will ultimately almost monopolise the world's market. "No country can compete with India when transit is once made easy, as even owners of copper and iron mines will one day discover." So the *Spectator* thinks.

WE read in the *Indian Planters' Gazette* :—

"The following lines hit off very neatly the popular idea of transcendental philosophy :—

Across the moorlands of the Not  
We chase the gruesome When,  
And hunt the Itness of the What  
Through forests of the Then.

Into the inner consciousness  
We track the crafty Where,  
We spear the Ergo tough, and beard  
The Ego in his lair.

With lassoes of the brain we catch  
The Isness of the Was,  
And in the copses of the Whence  
We hear the Think bees buzz.

WE climb the slippery Which bark tree  
To watch the Thusness roll,  
And pause betimes in gnostic rhymes  
To woo the Over-Soul."

With all deference, we must confess to a different opinion. The piece is poor enough as a whole. What little neatness there is, is exhausted in the first stanza or two. Afterwards, the strain is visible, and the struggle is painful to behold. At the end of the last line of stanza 3, the "Think bees" (a stupid idea) "buzz" for nothing, only for a filling in line and for a rhyme. The opening is very good, forcible and without a flaw,

Across the moorlands of the Not  
We chase the gruesome When,

but the spirit is not sustained. There are far better jests current on Metaphysics. But they all must bow the head to one line of the *Rejected Addresses*, in the grand parody on Byron,

"And Nought was Everything and Everything was Nought."

There is genius in that line. It is certainly worth more than a volume of criticism. It takes Transcendentalism in to a T.

THIS is how the lawyers make the worse appear the better reason, and how the grave and reverend seigniors of the bench puzzle over a simple matter :—

"What is a cousin?" is the latest of the many mysterious issues submitted to the decision of our Courts of Law. A dictionary would answer it off-hand; but a dictionary might find itself overruled, as the late Mr. Justice Pearson has just been by a court consisting of no less than three eminent Lords Justices, Cotton, Bowen, and Fry. A lady, it appears, died, leaving a bequest to her 'cousin, Harriett Cloak.' Now there were two Harriett Cloaks, or rather a Harriett that had been a Cloak, but had married and ceased to be so called, and a Harriett that had not been a Cloak, but had become one by marriage. The testatrix's cousin, Thomas Cloak, in fact, had a wife called Harriett, and a sister Harriett who, when the will was made, had already for some years abandoned her patronymic and become Mrs. Crane. Which of these ladies was the person designated in the will? They brought the matter before Mr. Justice Pearson, and he decided in favour of the cousin by blood—the Harriett who was certainly a cousin, but was no longer a Cloak. The cousin by marriage appealed—she who was unquestionably a Cloak, but only doubtfully a cousin. The full learning of the judicial bench has been brought to bear on this knotty question, and the result by the voice of two Lords Justices against one has been to give the legacy to the lady who is now beyond all question Harriett Cloak—that is, to Thomas's wife, and not to Thomas's sister. Indeed, though the *mitis sapientia* of Lord Justice Bowen dissented, it is very difficult to see how there could be any real question about the matter. When the testatrix died she well knew that her cousin by blood had long been married, and was Harriett Crane, not Harriett Cloak at all. Would any one in such a case think of describing her cousin by her maiden name? Lord Justice Bowen thinks that the conventions of language extend the terms 'nephew' and 'niece' to nephews and nieces by marriage, but that they do not so extend the term 'cousin.' We should have thought that the case was, if anything, the other way. A man whose nephew by marriage is nearly his own age hesitates about calling him nephew; he does not hesitate about calling a cousin of any age cousin. Cousinship is so pleasant a relation by the mere fact of its elasticity. It is as wide or as narrow as anybody chooses to make it. Certainly it includes cousins' wives or husbands, if they are agreeable to us; and if we go so far as to leave money to them it may be assumed that they are agreeable. For once, we should venture to say that in

this great cousin case Lord Justice Bowen had been over-subtle, and that his colleagues, in differing from him, were decidedly in the right."—*Times*.

No doubt, the imperfection of British manners and language accounts for honest doubts. A hundred different relations are expressed by one term. Your wife's sister's as well as your sister's husband is your brother-in-law. So is your wife's brother. Almost any fright is your aunt. Uncles abound, without all being equally 'accommodating.' Nephews for number are a nuisance—specially to men in office.

GREAT are the Greeks even in their fall—conquerors in their servitude. As in the old Roman times, so now, the superiority of intelligence asserts itself over brute force. Well did the Poet say—

*Græcia capta ferum victorem cepit, et artes,  
Intulit agreste.*

And now we read :—

A correspondent of the *Journal des Débats* gives "some account of the great advance which higher education in Greece has made of recent years. There are 33 'gymnasias' in the kingdom, 200 secondary schools, and 1,717 primary schools. These are all public. Among the private educational establishments, the first place must be given to the 'Society for the Higher Education of Women,' in connection with which a lycée for girls was established a few years ago, with a staff of seventy-six teachers and 1,476 pupils. Greeks send their girls there from all parts of the East. Education is very liberally endowed in Greece; and the sums which Greeks settled in foreign countries send home for this purpose are very large. One result, of course, is that the Greeks are almost entirely in possession of the learned professions in Turkey. Illiteracy, too, is rare in the kingdom; in the most out-of-the-way hill countries you will see little scholars (says the correspondent from whom we are quoting) reading their Plutarch's 'Lives.'"

The Greeks are evidently taking in Turkey the place of the old Brahmins in India. A bad omen for Islam.

SINCE yesterday afternoon, the sky is overcast. The wind blew high towards evening and it rained. It is drizzling since. The Ballyganj Steeple-chases announced for this day are postponed in consequence.

THE present rage for locomotion has affected all ranks and professions. We have globe-trotters of sorts—commercial travellers, military inquirers, scientific observers, literary hacks, artistic collectors. Not the least interesting is the nobleman on a spree through the globe, intent on more earnest joy, at least on a wider scale than Europe affords the chance for. As everything has its feeble and evil counterpart, we must be content to meet with such cases as the following. For both original and counterpart have taken to globe-trotting. The *Chevalier d'Industrie* takes his passage (commonly as a stowaway) in the same vessel as the Chevalier of the Legion of Honour and the heroes of other Orders. Only he should in future be more careful about his destination :

"In the City Police Court, Melbourne, on the 13th ultimo, a man named Montagu Burney, was charged with having attempted to impose on a jeweller, by means of a valueless cheque. An assistant in the shop stated that the prisoner came to him, and selected a diamond ring, valued at £12 10s. He wrote out a cheque for the amount, and signed it "Carrington, Jord." The prisoner asked witness if he knew Lord Carrington, (Governor of New South Wales) and he replied that he did not. Then he said, 'I am he.' Witness did not believe him, and sent out for a constable, and detained him on the pretence of showing him other articles of jewellery. A detective, arrested the accused, who repeated the statement that he was Lord Carrington, and then said, 'I am his second brother, it's all the same.' The accused received his defence, but said he had received a sun-stroke in India, which still affected him. He was suffering from this at the time the offence was committed. He was committed for trial."

Instead of laying his sins on the glorious life-giving, light-giving luminary, why did not this new scion of aristocracy, Lord CARRINGTON or his second brother—it is all the same—or his brother-in-law, for that matter—at once confess to Kleptomania? It would have been thoroughly aristocratic, like champagne, or the Italian opera, or the gout, and it would certainly have been nearer the truth.

This knight, of course, made a great mistake in selecting his ground. It was like taking coals to Newcastle for him and his confreres to go to Botany Bay and Melbourne, unless to learn a trick or two.

A GREAT ethnologic discovery has just been made. The Veddahs of Ceylon never laugh. A laughing Veddah, indeed, would be a veritable *lusus naturæ*. Mr. C. STEVENS of Brisbane, Australia, has lived among these melancholy representatives of Ravana; and communicated his experiences, last November, to a sedate assembly of Anglo-Indian pandits in the rooms of the old *Jadoo-ghur*. The Veddah does not even tolerate laughter. "Watching the grotesque appearance and motions during one of the dances, the observer could not help

laughing, when quick as thought an arrow was shot from a bow passing within an inch of his head, and the dancers rushed away from the spot in high dudgeon. The other occasion was when a party of the Veddahs were exhibiting before several European and native spectators, some of the latter began to laugh when the Veddahs handled their bows with angry expressions, and the visibility of the spectators had to be promptly repressed."

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1887.  
THE GREAT SERVICE QUESTION.

TO Mr. DADABHAI NAOROJI'S numerous patriotic writings has now to be added his paper on the great Indian Service Question. Its appearance at the present time when a Commission is sitting on the subject, and on the eve of the National Congress, is most opportune. It is a very full and elaborate exposition of the subject, supported by strong historical evidence. The argumentative portion is simply overwhelming. Mr. NAOROJI has wisely rested his argument on one issue, viz., whether the covenant of 1833 is to be fulfilled or not. That was our first political Charter, and it enacted as follows:—

"That no Native of the said territories, nor any natural-born subject of His Majesty resident therein, shall, by reason only of his religion, place of birth, descent colour or any of them, be disabled from holding any place, office or employment under the said Company."

The fundamental principle of British rule was thus declared to be one of equal justice to all classes, without any distinction whatsoever of religion, race or colour. It was adopted, as Mr. NAOROJI successfully shows, after a full and deliberate consideration of all aspects of the subject. It was a Charter granted with spontaneous grace, from the love of fair-play and justice, which is the instinctive characteristic of the British. "It was not wrested by the Natives on the field of battle, or at the point of the sword. There was no heavy pressure from Natives, no important Native voice by way of agitation, either in the debate, or in the Committee to influence the decision; it was the deliberate, calm, well and fully discussed act and decision of a great people and Parliament."

At the renewal of the East India Company's Charter in 1853, twenty years after the passing of the above enactment, nothing was more bewailed than the neglect of the authorities to give effect to it. The principles of that Act were also emphatically reaffirmed. But the crowning confirmation of those principles was given in the Royal Proclamation of 1858, when the Queen assumed the direct Government of this country from the hands of the East India Company. The clauses in that gracious Proclamation relating to the subject are as follow:—

"We hold ourselves bound to the Natives of our Indian territories by the same obligations of duty which bind us to all our other subjects, and those obligations, by the blessing of Almighty God, we shall faithfully and conscientiously fulfil."

"And it is our further will that so far as may be our subjects of whatever race or creed, be freely and impartially admitted to offices in our service, the duties of which they may be qualified by their education, ability and integrity duly to discharge."

"In their prosperity will be our strength, in their contentment our security, and in their gratitude our best reward. And may the god of all Power grant to Us and to those in authority under Us, strength to carry out these our wishes for the good of our people."

More than half a century has elapsed since the Act of 1833, and more than a quarter of a century

since the Proclamation, but those promises remain unfulfilled to this day, without any justification whatever. To quote Mr. NAOROJI, "Intellectual, moral and physical progress has gone on steadily under the blessed educational work of our rulers. Whatever may have been the justification or otherwise for the non-fulfilment of the solemn and public promises in the past, there is now no excuse to delay a faithful, honest and complete fulfilment of those promises, which in reality are our birth-rights from the very circumstance of our having become British subjects—and that we are not British slaves."

And what have been the political effects of this non-fulfilment of partial fulfilment of the pledges of the past? "As far as these promises have been neglected, so far has there been failure in the financial and economic prosperity of India, and in the satisfaction of the people. In as much as these promises have, even grudgingly and partially, been carried out, so far the hopeful conviction of the people is maintained that justice will at last be done, and that the good day is coming."

There can be no pretence for non-fulfilment derived from any uncertainty as to the loyalty of the people. That is now placed beyond question. The clearest and most decisive testimony in favor of them has been borne by the Government itself, which in a letter to the Secretary of State, 8th June 1886, in reply to Mr. CAIRDS' minute, writes, as follows:—"To the minds of at least the educated among the people of India—and the number is rapidly increasing—any idea of the subversion of the British Powers is abhorrent, from the consciousness that it must result in the wildest anarchy and confusion."

Mr. DADABHAI NAOROJI speaks passionately of this testimony and of the logical issue which it raises:

"Our British rulers have rightly appreciated the true feelings of the Indian people generally, and of the educated particularly, in their above statement. It is simple truth. In 1838 the question of our capabilities and character was as yet somewhat open, our progress in education small, our feelings towards the British rule doubtful. Half a century has passed—our capacity, our loyalty, our progress in education and the integrity of the educated have stood the trial and are now undoubted. We have had 54 years of neglect, or a grudging partial fulfilment of the noble principles and promise of 1833. Let us have now a 50 years of a fair hearty trial of the promise. As long as such a fair trial is not allowed, it is idle and unjust and adding insult to injury to decide anything against us. The trial and responsibilities of office will and can alone further develop our capabilities. Let the standards of test, mental, moral or physical,—be what they like, as long as they are the same for all Natives and Englishmen, all we ask is 'fair field and no favour,' an honest fulfilment of the Act of 1833 and of the Proclamation of 1858."

If this is done, I have no hesitation in saying that India will improve financially, economically, commercially, educationally, industrially and in every way, with amazing rapidity and will bring manifold benefits and blessings to England also. And last, though not least, India's loyalty will be firmly rivetted to British rule for the best of all reasons—self-interest as well as gratitude."

This is the subject of the day, and as with Mr. NAOROJI, we have taken it up at the beginning, we will follow it up with further discussions.

## THE PIONEER IN THE CONFESSIOAL.

THE Great Power in the Press, Defender of Prestige and of the powers that be, has, in an unguarded moment, disclosed its mind. Tell me your friends and I will tell you what you are—is an old maxim. Similarly, a man's taste in books is a yet more safe index to his best or real self. Now, the Allahabad paper has confessed to a partiality, strange enough in all conscience, for a Prince of—the Press and Defender of Prestige and of privilege. Junius, if anything, is our contemporary's weakness—Junius of all literature—Junius the literary ogre of his day—the terror of respectability of his times—Junius who lashed generals and admirals alike—Junius who spared

neither Ministers nor Judges—Junius who blackguard-ed the Duke of Grafton in Billingsgate become classical by force of genius—Junius who awed Majesty in the person of GEORGE III and bulked the chief of His Majesty's Obedient Servants in the person of GARRICK. The confession is all the more valuable for being involuntary. And it is an important disclosure. Here is another bond of possible union between the leaders of the Indian Press and its whipping-boy the native journalist! One touch of nature makes the whole world kin. We are birds of a feather after all, in our secret enjoyments and aspirations, even though, owing to the tyranny of circumstances, we are not permitted to flock together—are, indeed, thrown into opposite camps.

There is matter for hope for us in the revelation. A thin, mayhap temporary, partition of interest, a still thinner one of taste and accomplishments divide us. All have heard of the lion and the lamb reposing under the same shade. There have been greater wonders than will be the spectacle of the *Pioneer* and *Reis & Rayyet*, loyal as both are, to the British Crown, supporting a righteous liberal and progressive administration. At one time, not long ago, towards the end of Mr. SINNET'S régime in the *Pioneer* office, matters had almost reached the identical *rapprochement*, when a change came o'er the spirit of its dream, the Sappers behind sprung a mine upon the literary department, overwhelming the poor Pioneer—the wielder for the time being of the grey goose quill—who had had the rashness to march too far in advance of his column and corps. May Eighteen Hundred and Eightyseven prove the *annus mirabilis* of such a consummation!

Let no body doubt the chance revelation. Nor is there any deception in it. Our contemporary is in too much unrest to jest—too much in earnest to bamboozle. It is in no mood for trifling. It cannot afford to spend unnecessary breath. It plunges in *medias res*, and strikes the high note from the commencement. "Poor Junius," exclaims it at the outset. No matter that the words are not pointed by effusive punctuation. There are feelings too deep for tears, so there is language too plain for emphasis. We quote the sigh with the full text:—

"Poor Junius. If his unrecognised shade still wanders among us, his temper must be severely tried when he sees the spirit and style of his incomparable *Letters* so little understood, that every twaddler thinks himself equal to imitating 'Letters to Eminent Persons.' A Madras Journal has reached Number III of its series, the last being addressed to the new Governor. 'The deeper you sink,' Mr. Bourke is told, 'into the public regard, the more solid shall be the benefits placed to the public credit.' Could a more laboured and pointless remark be addressed to any man? 'The right of free petitioning is one of the privileges of every Englishman' is another glorious sentiment. Mr. Bourke is advised to 'develop the respect of self; which, if it meant anything, which fortunately it does not, to judge from the context—should imply that His Excellency Jacks self-respect.' Finally, the writer waxes eloquent over the woes of 'the millions who personally withstood the fangs of Mr. Grant Duff and his colleagues.' If this is satire and fine writing, or even common sense, then Junius's *Letters* were balderdash and drivel: or *vice versa*."

There! the admirer of the greatest libeller the world ever produced as well as (in the opinion of the most respectable of his contemporaries) one of the greatest sedition-mongers, stands revealed! And what is the effect of the discovery? Are we not driven to reconsider our judgments, and specially revise our notions respecting our contemporary? We must now more than ever read the Allahabad journal with extreme caution, specially dwelling between the lines. Our new knowledge throws a fresh light on all its lucubrations. We now discover that much of the *Pioneer's* sound and fury really signifies nothing and may as well be not taken seriously, that its abuse does not necessarily proceed from belief, that our contem-

porary does not really think the Baboos to be such ogres as he pretends. That the whole business is a feint on a great scale. That, in fact, it is a farce, and a bad one of its kind, and as such, though offensive, is nothing serious. That all the righteous indignation at the pretensions of Baboodom in particular and natives in general, is mere moonshine and no mistake. For, how can one love Junius and pretend to snub the patriot lisp of native publicists and the patriot aspirations of native hearts? The thing is morally impossible. Is there any thing in the Native programme of reform that Junius would not have fought for—that Junius did not anticipate? Can a man swallow the letter to the Duke of Grafton and stick at the inanities, however offensive, of the *Indian Mirror* or *Reis and Rayyet*? We need scarcely say that we rejoice in the discovery. It is a relief to know that salvation is not wholly out of our reach. If we are sinners, we are at least in good company. Consciously or unconsciously, we follow the most brilliant defender of the British constitution. That, by itself, might not have sufficed for protection. But it is satisfactory to know that the Zeus of the Indian Press is kind to the great literary gladiator.

We hope we have said enough to establish our claim upon our contemporary, taking it for an honest journal. We have almost made out a case for being the objects of the *Pioneer's* admiration, if not love. There is only one little flaw. It may be bound to receive our libels and our seditious and inflammatory writings with blandness, but it is not equally bound to bear calmly our stupidity. We have no wish to stretch a point unduly in our favour: We are strong in the justice of our cause. Our views are moderate even to meekness. Englishmen of education, nursed in the traditions of their history and still feeding on their best literature, even Anglo-Indian writers of the better sort, whether they derive their inspiration from Junius or BLACKSTONE or BAGEHOT, have no reason to find fault with our politics, unless for our pace in the path of progress. We cannot say as much for our literature. That, we are free to confess, is still a good deal crude. If the *Pioneer* makes a distinction between our politics and our literature, it is welcome. It is only as an artist that it has any right to rail at the natives' quest of their rights, or denounce the horrible conduct of native leaders and teachers. It is simply as the fastidious critic that the admirer of Junius can play the rôle of the Anglo-Indian Thersites to the Native Press.

We have done. We may, however, allow ourselves a word on the subject in connection with which our contemporary has shown its tenderness for the Great Unknown. The *Pioneer* protests against the pretensions of so many poor drivellers in the press to play at Junius. (We think we see our contemporary's rage at such a sentence, but then our passion for alliteration is a known Oriental proclivity, and we need not try to help it for a brother who never spares.) Our contemporary gibbets a writer in a Madras journal. But the practice is not of Indian origin, though several Indians, European and native, have done it to death. It is in the English society papers that the evil has been cultivated of late years, and some of their mock-Juniuses, though not without admirers, were contemptible beyond measure. Nor is Junius the model always aimed at, but rather the correspondents in *Punch* and the like. We must take exception to the *Pioneer's* concluding sentence. The verbal connecting link between "satire" and "fine writing" is, we take it, a careless slip for "or." But why "fine writing" at all? And is Junius an example of

fine writing? Fine writing is a fault, a wretched fault, a vice of literature, a disease of good writing. O mighty Junius! art thou gone so low? are all thy triumphs shrunk to this little measure? Is thy trenchant steel pen now reduced to the dove-quill of "fine writers?" Wert thou really HUGH BOYD or EARL TEMPLE? For, if a CHATHAM or a BURKE or a FRANCIS, or even a GERARD HAMILTON, thou must have despisedst thyself for whining like a lady's man.

#### A BENGALI MARTYR TO SCIENCE.

WE regret to announce the death of Babu HARI MOHAN MOOKERJEE of Seebpore, for many years Lecturer on botany at the Normal School, and the pioneer of scientific agriculture among the natives. By his death the country has lost a character of rare simplicity and loyalty to truth. The deceased was an enthusiast in the cause of science. Long before Dr. FAYRER began his experiments about snake poison, Babu HARIMOHAN, at constant risk to life itself, laid out the whole of his small income in experiments of a similar character. The hardships and dangers to which he exposed himself in mountain and jungle for collecting the various kinds of venomous snakes and searching for other curiosities, marked him out for a fearless votary of science. As a practical agriculturist, he had not his equal in India, amongst either Europeans or Natives. Originally a student of the Calcutta Medical College during the days of the Board of Education, he left College, after four years, without taking his Diploma. The European students then as down to our days used their superior physical strength for maltreating their native class-mates, and it was on one of these occasions that Babu HARIMOHAN, blessed with a larger share of personal courage and strength than generally falls to the lot of young men of his age, took the lead, along with a few others, in paying the white bullies in their own coin. After a protracted investigation by Sir EDWARD RYAN, then President of the Board of Education, the Principal of the College was censured for his neglect in listening to the complaints of the native students which alone had led to the *fracas*. Many of the students also were fined, and some amongst them (including HARIMOHAN) were rusticated for one year. Many of the latter re-joined College after expiry of the period of rustication, but HARIMOHAN, with a few, believing the sentence passed on them to have been unjust, refused to return. It was about this time that HARIMOHAN devoted himself to the study of Indian Natural History. He had before been known to some of the great naturalists of the day. As a student of the Medical College, he had for some seasons attended at the Company's Botanical Gardens on Dr. J. M. CLELLAND and Mr. W. GRIFFITH. These gentlemen were then prosecuting their researches in Indian geology and Indian Natural History and were enriching, with the results of their enquires, the pages of the *Calcutta Journal of Natural History* which the two edited. They invited and received with open arms the rusticated boy smarting under sense of injustice. Then HARI MOHAN, in his young love of science, followed. And he contributed not a little to build up their fame. For himself, he stipulated nothing—cared for nothing—content to learn the truths of Nature and advance the cause of learning. With his true Brahman simplicity, science was its own exceeding great reward. The lion's share of the drudgery and the danger was his. He went to most of the wild parts of India in search of specimens. On one

occasion he penetrated with a couple of snakesmen to the heart of the Sunderbans to procure a *sankhochoor* snake, and, after capturing one and bagging it, quietly took shelter with a *moodee* at night. The *moodee* however came to suspect the contents of the bag and drove the Brahman out in the middle of the night into the wilderness as a dangerous customer. He went the length of tasting the deadly serpent poison: It was in this devoted workmanlike manner he became a practical botanist, zoologist, and botanist. We have not heard of his like in India.

Though independent to fearlessness, HARIMOHAN was remarkable for his simplicity of manners. He was as guileless as a child. Utterly destitute of ambition and without a grain of obtrusiveness in him, he was content to pass the best part of his life in a subordinate position, as lecturer of practical botany, in the Calcutta Normal School. Once only, while there, fortune seemed to smile on him, for Sir GEORGE CAMPBELL, who knew him and appreciated his worth, made him the Superintendent of the Government Model Farm opened at Baraset. Many useful and interesting experiments were successfully made by Babu HARIMOHAN in the acclimatization of various kinds of foreign paddy and plants. After Sir GEORGE CAMPBELL'S retirement from the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, there came a reaction in which his name was dragged through the mire, and all his schemes discredited and left to languish. The Model Farm at Baraset was abandoned, on the extraordinary ground that it did not prove a financial success, as if the acclimatization of foreign corn and plants, for the benefit of the whole country, was after all a question of debit and credit only. Babu HARIMOHAN, after the abolition of the Experimental Farm, returned to his old duties at the Calcutta Normal School. The deceased has written much on the subject which was his speciality. His *Krishi-darpan*, Parts I and II, and his *Udvid-nyavaccheda* are excellent works of their kind on the subjects of practical agriculture in India and elementary botanical analysis. The deceased has left a widow and three children, without having been able to make the slightest provision for them. If the small pension to which he was entitled, but which he has not lived to draw, might possibly be granted to his widow for a few years, for enabling her to maintain herself and her children, the Government of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON would do a very feeling as well as graceful act. Perhaps it is worth mentioning that neither the deceased nor his widow, nor any connection of either, is a relation of ours. So Sir RIVERS will be in no danger of Christianity by accident by the slightest good turn to an enemy.

#### THE SECOND INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

##### THE DELIBERATION OF THE DELEGATES.

###### RESOLUTION I.

RESOLVED. That this Congress of Delegates from all parts of India, do humbly offer its dutiful and loyal congratulations to Her Most Gracious Majesty, the Queen-Empress, on the approaching completion of the first half-century of her memorable, beneficent and glorious reign, and heartily wish her many, many more, and happy, years of rule, over the great British Empire.

[Proposed by Mr. Rahimatulla M. Sayani (Bombay), seconded by Lala Moorali Dhur, (Umballa), supported by Mr. G. Subramania Iyer (Madras), and carried by acclamation.]

###### RESOLUTION II.

RESOLVED. That this Congress regards with the deepest sympathy, and views with grave apprehension, the increasing poverty of vast numbers of the population of India, and (although aware that the Government is not overlooking this matter and is contemplating certain palliatives), desires to record its fixed conviction, that the introduction of Representative Institutions will prove one of the most

important practical steps, towards the amelioration of the condition of the people.

[Proposed by Mr. Dinshaw Edulji Wacha (*Bombay*), seconded by the Hon'ble S. Subramania Iyer (*Madras*), supported by Pundit Prannath (*Lucknow*), and carried by a very large majority.]

#### RESOLUTION III.

**RESOLVED.** That this Congress do emphatically re-affirm the 3rd Resolution of the Congress of 1885, and distinctly declare its belief that the reform and expansion of the Council of the Governor-General for making Laws and of the Provincial Legislative Councils, therein suggested, have now become essential alike in the interests of India and England.

[Proposed by Rai Kunji Lal Banerjee Bahadur (*Calcutta*), seconded by Mr. P. Rungia Naidoo (*Madras*), supported by Mr. Gunesham Nilkant (*Bombay*), and carried unanimously.]

#### RESOLUTION IV.

**RESOLVED.** That this Congress is of opinion that in giving practical effect to this essential reform, regard should be had (subject to such modifications as, on a more detailed examination of the question, may commend themselves to the Government) to the principles embodied in the following tentative suggestions :—

(1) The number of persons composing the Legislative Councils, both Provincial and of the Governor-General, to be materially increased. Not less than one-half the Members of such enlarged Councils to be elected. Not more than one-fourth to be officials having seats *ex-officio* in such Councils, and not more than one-fourth to be Members, official or non-official, nominated by Government.

(2) The right to elect members to the Provincial Councils to be conferred only on those classes and members of the community *prima facie* capable of exercising it wisely and independently. In Bengal and Bombay, the Councillors may be elected by the members of Municipalities, District Boards, Chambers of Commerce and the Universities, or an electorate may be constituted of all persons possessing such qualifications, educational and pecuniary, as may be elected either by District Boards, Municipalities, Chambers of Commerce and the University, or by Electoral Colleges composed of members partly elected by these bodies and partly nominated by Government. In the North-West Provinces and Oudh and in the Punjab, Councillors may be elected by an Electoral College composed of members elected by Municipal and District Boards and nominated, to an extent not exceeding one-sixth of the total number, by Government, it being understood that the same elective system now in force where Municipal Boards are concerned will be applied to District Boards, and the right of electing members to these latter extended to the cultivating class. But whatever system be adopted (and the details must be worked out separately for each province) care must be taken that all sections of the community, and all great interests, are adequately represented.

(3) The elected Members of the Council of the Governor-General for making laws, to be elected by the elected Members of the several Provincial Councils.

(4) No elected or nominated Member of any Council, to receive any salary or remuneration in virtue of such membership, but any such Member, already in receipt of any Government salary or allowance, to continue to draw the same unchanged during membership, and all Members to be entitled to be reimbursed any expenses incurred in travelling in connection with their membership.

(5) All persons, resident in India, to be eligible for seats in Council, whether as electors or nominees, without distinction of race, creed, caste or color.

(6) All legislative measures and all financial questions, including all budgets, whether these involve new or enhanced taxation or not, to be necessarily submitted to and dealt with by these Councils. In the case of all other branches of the administration, any Member to be at liberty, after due notice, to put any question he sees fit to the *ex-officio* Members (or such one of these as may be specially charged with supervision of the particular branch concerned) and to be entitled (except as hereinafter provided) to receive a reply to his question, together with copies of any papers requisite for the thorough comprehension of the subject, and on this reply the Council to be at liberty to consider and discuss the question and record thereon such resolution as may appear fitting to the majority. Provided that, if the subject in regard to which the inquiry is made involves matters of Foreign policy, Military dispositions or strategy, or is otherwise of such nature that, in the opinion of the Executive, the public interests would be materially imperilled by the communication of the information asked for, it shall be competent for them to instruct the *ex-officio* Members, or one of them, to reply accordingly and decline to furnish the information asked for.

(7) The Executive Government shall possess the power of overruling the decision arrived at by the majority of the Council, in every case in which, in its opinion, the public interests would suffer by the acceptance of such decision; but whenever this power is exercised, a full exposition of the grounds on which this has been considered necessary, shall be published within one month, and in the case of Local Governments they shall report the circumstances and explain the objection to the Government of India, and in the

case of this latter, it shall report and explain to the Secretary of State; and in any such case on a representation made through the Government of India and the Secretary of State by the overruled majority, it shall be competent to the Standing Committee of the House of Commons (recommended in the 3rd Resolution of last year's Congress which this present Congress has affirmed) to consider the matter, and call for any and all papers or information, and hear any persons on behalf of such majority or otherwise, and thereafter, if needful, report thereon to the full House.

[Proposed by Mr. Surendra Nath Bannerjee (*Calcutta*), seconded by Mr. N. G. Chandavarkar (*Bombay*), supported by Mr. Sarfuddin (*Bihar*), and carried without a dissentient voice.]

#### RESOLUTION V.

**RESOLVED.** That this Congress do invite all public bodies and all Associations throughout the country, humbly and earnestly, to entreat His Excellency the Viceroy to obtain the sanction of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to the appointment of a Commission, to enquire exhaustively into the best method of introducing such a tentative form of Representative Institutions into India, as has been indicated in Resolutions III of the past, and IV of the present year's Congress.

[Proposed by Mr. N. N. Gupte (*Kurrachi*); seconded by Mr. N. B. Namjoshi (*Poona*); supported by Kumar Benoy Krishna (*Calcutta*), and carried unanimously.]

#### RESOLUTION VI.

**RESOLVED.** That a Committee composed of the gentlemen, named in the following, be appointed to consider the Public Service Question and report thereon to this Congress.

Hon'ble Dadabhai Naoroji (*Bombay*), Hon'ble S. Subramania Iyer (*Madras*), Hon'ble Peary Mohun Mookerjee (*Calcutta*), Mr. Subramania Iyer (*Madras*), Babu Motilal Ghose (*Calcutta*), Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee (*Calcutta*), Mr. Gangapershad Varma (*Lucknow*), Mr. Ramkali Chowdhry (*Benares*), Mr. Guru Das Sen (*Patna*), Pandit Prannath (*Lucknow*), Munshi Kashipershad (*Allahabad*), Nawab Riza Ali (*Lucknow*), Mr. Hamid Ali (*Lucknow*), Lala Kanyalal (*Amritsar*), Rao Sahib Gungadhar Row Madheo Chitnavis (*Nagpore*), Mr. Rahimatulla M. Syani (*Bombay*).

[Proposed by Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee (*Calcutta*), seconded by Mr. N. B. Namjoshi (*Poona*), supported by Pundit Agnihotri (*Labore*) and carried unanimously.]

#### RESOLUTION VII.

**RESOLVED.** That this Congress approves and adopts the report\* submitted by the Committee appointed by Resolution VI.

[Proposed by Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee (*Calcutta*), seconded by the Hon'ble S. Subramania Iyer (*Madras*), and carried unanimously.]

#### RESOLUTION VIII.

**RESOLVED.** That, in the opinion of this Congress, the time has now arrived when the system of trial by Jury may be safely extended into many parts of the country where it is not at present in force.

[Proposed by Mr. S. A. Saminatha Iyer (*Tanjore*), seconded by Mr. H. H. Dhruva (*Surat*), supported by Dr. Troyluck Nath Mitter (*Calcutta*), and carried unanimously.]

#### RESOLUTION IX.

**RESOLVED.** That, in the opinion of this Congress, the innovation made in 1872 in the system of trial by Jury, depriving the verdicts

#### \*REPORT.

We, the Members of the Committee appointed by the Congress to submit a statement in connection with the Public Service Question, have the honor to report that the following resolutions were unanimously adopted by us at a meeting held yesterday :—

1. That the open Competitive Examination be held simultaneously both in India and in England.
2. That the simultaneous examinations thus held be equally open to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects.
3. That the classified list be prepared according to merit.
4. That the Congress express the hope that the Civil Service Commissioners will give fair consideration to Sanskrit and Arabic among the subjects of examination.
5. That the age of candidates eligible for admission to the open Competitive Examination be not less than 19, or, as recommended by Sir C. Aitchison, more than 23 years.
6. That simultaneous examinations being granted, the Statutory Civil Service be closed for first appointments.
7. That the appointments in the Statutory Civil Service, under the existing rules, be still left open to the Members of the Uncovenanted Service and to professional men of proved merit and ability.
8. That all appointments requiring educational qualifications, other than Covenanted first appointments, be filled by Competitive Examinations held in the different Provinces, and open in each Province, to such natural-born subjects of Her Majesty only, as are residents thereof.

These Resolutions, it is hoped, cover the main principles which underlie the questions set by the Public Service Commission. For a more detailed consideration there was no time.

(Sd.) DADABHAI NAOROJI,  
President of the Committee.

30th December 1886.



of Juries of all finality, has proved injurious to the country, and that the powers then, for the first time, vested in Sessions Judges and High Courts, of setting aside verdicts of acquittal, should be at once withdrawn.

[Proposed by Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee (*Calcutta*), seconded by the Hon'ble Peary Mohun Mukerjee (*Calcutta*), supported by Munshi Sadhu Lall (*Benares*), and carried by a very large majority.]

#### RESOLUTION X.

RESOLVED. That, in the opinion of this Congress, a provision, similar to that contained in the Summary Jurisdiction Act of England, (under which accused persons in serious cases have the option of demanding a commitment to the Sessions Court) should be introduced into the Indian Code of Criminal Procedure, enabling accused persons, in warrant cases, to demand that, instead of being tried by the Magistrate, they be committed to the Court of Sessions.

[Proposed by Mr. Man Mohun Ghose (*Calcutta*), seconded by Mr. T. Chidambaram Row (*Bellary*), supported by Khajeh Abdul Alim (*Dacca*), and carried unanimously.]

#### RESOLUTION XI.

RESOLVED. That this Congress do place on record an expression of the universal conviction, that a complete separation of Executive and Judicial functions (such that in no case the two functions shall be combined in the same officer) has become an urgent necessity, and that, in its opinion, it behoves the Government to effect this separation without further delay, even though this should, in some Provinces, involve extra expenditure.

[Proposed by Mr. Daji Abaji Khare (*Bombay*), seconded by Munshi Kashipershad (*Allahabad*), supported by Mr. Sri Ram (*Lucknow*), and carried unanimously.]

#### RESOLUTION XII.

RESOLVED. That in view to the unsettled state of public affairs in Europe, and the immense assistance that the people of this country, if duly prepared therefor, is capable of rendering to Great Britain in the event of any serious complications arising, this Congress do earnestly appeal to the Government to authorise (under such rules and restrictions as may to it seem fitting) a system of Volunteering for the Indian Inhabitants of the country, such as may qualify them to support the Government, effectively, in any crisis.

[Proposed by Rajah Rampal Singh (*Oudh*), seconded by Mr. R. D. Mehta (*Calcutta*), and carried by acclamation.]

#### RESOLUTION XIII.

RESOLVED. That Standing Congress Committees be constituted at all important centres.

[Proposed by Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee (*Calcutta*), seconded by Mr. N. G. Chandavarkar (*Bombay*), and carried unanimously.]

#### RESOLUTION XIV.

RESOLVED. That the Third Indian National Congress assemble at Madras on the 27th of December 1887.

[Proposed by Mr. A. O. Hume (*Punjab*), seconded by the Hon'ble S. Subramania Iyer (*Madras*), and carried by acclamation.]

#### RESOLUTION XV.

RESOLVED. That copies of these Resolutions be forwarded to His Excellency the Viceroy in Council, with the humble requests, that he will cause the 1st Resolution to be submitted in due course to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, that he will cause all the Resolutions to be laid before Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, and that he himself will be graciously pleased, in consultation with his colleagues, to accord them his best consideration.

[Proposed by Mr. Rungia Naidu (*Madras*), seconded by Mr. Sorabjee Framjee Patel (*Bombay*), and carried unanimously.]

DADABHAI NAOROJI,

President of the Second Indian National Congress.

### Official Paper.

From A. P. MacDonnell Esq., C.S., Offg. Secretary to the Government of India,

To all Local Governments and Administrations.

Sir,—His Excellency the Governor General in Council, having taken into consideration the loyal desire of the people of India that in the fiftieth year of the reign of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress their devotion to her person and throne should be manifested throughout the Empire on a specially appointed day of public rejoicing, and having regard to the conditions of the seasons which are adverse to the selection for this purpose of the anniversary of Her Majesty's birth, or that of her accession, is pleased to designate Wednesday, the 16th of February, for adoption throughout India as the day of Her Majesty's Jubilee.

2. The sixteenth of February will be observed as a holiday in all public offices. The official ceremonial by which the occasion will be distinguished will be separately notified.

3. In other respects His Excellency the Governor General in Council confidently leaves to the discretion of the Local Governments and Administrations acting in concert with the peoples under

their charge, and more especially to the deep and unaffected loyalty of Her Majesty's subjects, the measures which shall be undertaken to celebrate the day of Jubilee with appropriate honours. His Excellency in Council is assured that the executive authorities may on this occasion safely yield the initiative to the spontaneous action of Municipal Councils and of the community at large, and that the unanimous voice of the Empire will gratefully tender to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress a homage worthy of the noble charity of her life, and the justice and benevolence of her reign.

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

#### THE COUNTESS OF DUFFERIN'S FUND.

Government House, Calcutta, 1st January 1887.

SIR,—I. Will you allow me, through the columns of your paper, on this the first day of Her Majesty, the Queen-Empress Jubilee year, to appeal to the Members of the National Association and to all others who are interested in its work to join me in making some special effort to commemorate the event, and at the same time substantially to benefit those Indian Women, in whose sufferings the Queen takes so great and personal an interest.

One great effort made at this moment would be of incalculable service and would have far reaching effect in carrying out at once those objects which the National Association is designed to promote, and in securing the future welfare of the Women of India. A very little sum, whether in annas or rupees, from every one who can afford to give anything would make the subscription a really National one, and a worthy memorial of our great Queen's reign.

2. In order to facilitate the collection of the smallest sums the following arrangements have been made.

I.—Collecting cards have been expressly designed for the occasion.

II.—These cards for the collection of Rs. 20 and upwards, are obtainable, on application, from the Honorary Secretary during the months of January, February, March, April, May and June 1887.

III.—These cards will be numbered, and the name of the collector registered; when full, the card is to be sent to the Honorary Secretary, who, after receipt, will return it to the collector.

IV.—Donors of larger sums sent direct to the Honorary Secretary will receive an acknowledgment on a larger "Jubilee" card specially designed for the purpose.

V.—All the cards are to be returned, and the donations paid, in by the 1st of July 1887.

VI.—A copy of the Register containing the names of all those who have aided in this work will be handsomely bound and presented to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress as a souvenir of the occasion.

VII.—All money subscribed to this Jubilee Fund is to be paid into the Central Committee, but every collector of small sums, or donor of large ones, may, when sending it to the Honorary Secretary, specify to which Branch of the Association, the collection, or donation, is to be applied. In the absence of specific direction, the money will be allotted by the Central Committee.

3. The magnitude of the work to be done, and the peculiar appropriateness of the moment for doing it, encourage me to hope that my appeal may be successful, that I may be forgiven for making it, and that at the end of the 50th year of Her Gracious Majesty's reign I may be able to tell the Queen-Empress, that Her well known sympathy for the women of India has borne fruit, and that the Association formed for their benefit and of which Her Majesty is Patron, has, as a memorial of Her Jubilee year, received such substantial support as to place it on a firm and lasting foundation.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

(Sd.) HARRIET DUFFERIN,

Lady President of the National Association for supplying Female Medical Aid to the Women of India.

### HOLLOWAY'S PILLS & OINTMENT

#### THE PILLS

Purify the Blood, correct all Disorders of the

**LIVER, STOMACH, KIDNEYS AND BOWELS,**

They invigorate and restore to health Debilitated Constitutions, and are invaluable in all Complaints incidental to Females of all ages.

For children and the aged they are priceless.

#### THE OINTMENT

Is an infallible remedy for Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Old Wounds, Sores and Ulcers. It is famous for Gout and Rheumatism. For disorders of the Chest it has no equal.

**For Sore Throats, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds,**

Glandular Swellings and all Skin Diseases, it has no rival; and for contracted and stiff joints it acts like a charm.

Manufactured only at Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishment

**OXFORD STREET (late 533, Oxford St.,) LONDON.**

## NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold pursuant to a decree of the Court of the Second Subordinate Judge of 24 Pergunnahs made in suit No. 39 of 1884 wherein Sreenath Roy Chowdry son of the late Prem Chand Roy Chowdry at present residing at No. 68 Sovabazar Street in the Town of Calcutta is plaintiff and Kumar Upendro Kristo Deb Bahadoor son of the late Rajah Apurva Kristo Deb Bahadoor inhabitant of Sovabazar Raja Nobokissen's Street in the Town of Calcutta by caste Kyasto and by profession Zemindar is defendant and dated the 15th day of September 1884 and an order of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction dated the 31st day of August 1885 by the Registrar of the said Court in his Sale room at the Court house on Saturday the fifteenth day of January next at the hour of 12 O'Clock at noon the undermentioned immoveable properties—

Lot No. 1.—All that one anna share of mehal No. 31 of Tipparrah Collector's Towjee Pergunnahs Gunga Mundul the Sudder Jumma of which per year is Rupees 55,143-13-4.

Lot No. 2.—All that one anna share of Talook No. 155 of the 24 Pergunnahs Collector's Towjee Pergunnahs Agarpara and Muragacha the Sudder Jumma of which is Rupees 45,193-14-8.

The condition of sale and the abstract of title may be seen in the office of the Registrar of the High Court in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction and also in the office of Baboo Aushootoss Dhur attorney for the plaintiff decree holder at No. 2 Hastings' Street in the Town of Calcutta on any day before the sale and will be produced at the sale.

Aushootoss Dhur,  
Plaintiff's Attorney,  
Calcutta.

(Sd.) R. BELCHAMBERS,

Registrar.

The 15th June, 1886.

## HAMILTON &amp; CO.'S

## Latest Designs in Gold Bangles.

The Acron Bangle, (England)	Rs. 60
The Thistle Bangle, (Scotland)	60
The Shamrock Bangle, (Ireland)	60
The Lotus Bangle, (India)	60
The Forget-me-not Bangle	63
The Indian Bamboo Bangle	32
The Victoria Bangle	100
The Cleopatra Sighet Bangle	54
The Magic Twist Bangle	185
The Flexible Curb Bangle	115
The Etruscan Ball Bangle	32
The Good Luck Bangle	54
The Oriental Onyx Bangle	90
The Flexible Gold and Platinum Bangle	100
The "Mascotte" Diamond Hhoe Bangle	90
The Scotch Plaid Bangle	80

The above are cash quotations.

Inspection Invited.

HAMILTON & CO.,  
CALCUTTA.

## NOTICE.

The undermentioned surplus lands no longer required by the Commissioners for the Town of Calcutta, will be put up for sale by public auction, at the Municipal Office, on Monday, the 17th January 1887, at noon.

Lot No.	LOCALITY.	Area more or less.	REMARKS.
1A	Land in front of No. 126 Upper Circular Road	B. K. Ch. S. ft. 0 0 14 0	
1B	Do. " 125 "	0 0 5 20	
1C	Do. " 124 "	0 0 6 20	
2	Do. on the east of No. 74 Grey Street	0 0 6 0	
3A	WARD No. 3. Filled-up drain in front of No. 60 Grey Street	0 0 1 23	
3B	Do. " No. 62 "	0 0 1 23	
3C	Do. south of No. 61 "	0 0 4 6	
5	WARD No. 5. Do. in front of No. 3 Jorabagan Street	0 0 6 4	
6	Do. " No. 5 "	0 0 0 36	
9	Land on the south of No. 367 Upper Chitpore Road	0 1 6 32	
10	WARD No. 8. The north-west corner of No. 16-1 Champatola Lane	0 1 0 0	
11	No. 9 Chunam Gully	0 1 8 0	
12	WARD No. 9. Land on the north of No. 18 Rajchunder Sen's Lane	0 1 4 28	
13A	Do. south of No. 36-3 Okhil Mistry's Lane	0 1 13 20	
13B	Do. " No. 36 "	0 0 6 30	
14	WARD No. 10. Land on the east of No. 3 Warris Bagan Lane	0 0 12 0	
15	Do. west of the bathing Platform at Warris Bagan	0 0 4 0	
16	WARD No. 14. Land at Newgypooker depot No. 59 Jaun Bazar Street	0 4 13 42	
17A	Do. on the east of No. 34 Newgypooker West Lane	0 3 12 0	
71B	Do. " No. 36 "	0 3 12 0	
18	Do. " No. 32 "	0 3 13 0	
19	Filled up drain on the South of No. 8 Dutt's Lane	0 0 8 0	
20	WARD No. 15. Land on east of No. 12 McLeod St.	0 0 6 40	
21	Do. " No. 14 "	0 0 3 40	
22	Do. west of No. 9 "	0 0 13 40	

## CONDITIONS OF SALE.

1. The Commissioners' limit which is to be fixed by the Chairman in consultation with the Assessor, will be kept in a closed cover by that officer, and the highest bidder above this limit is to be the purchaser; if any dispute arise as to the last or highest bidding for the lot, the same shall be put up again and resold.

2. A deposit of 25 per cent on the amount of the purchase-money is to be made by the Purchaser immediately upon the lot being knocked down, and in default thereof, the premises to be immediately put up and resold at the risk of the purchaser.

3. The title to the property will be a conveyance from the Commissioners.

4. The residue of the purchase-money shall be paid within 15 days of the date of sale: and in case of default in payment of such residue, the purchaser shall forfeit his deposit, which shall be received and taken as and by way of liquidated damages, the sale to such purchaser

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1887.

No. 256

## The Week.

THE Prince of Wales presided on the 12th instant at a meeting at St. James' Palace, Pall Mall, to consider the scheme for an Imperial Institute, in commemoration of the Jubilee of Her Majesty's 50 years' reign. They Resolved to found the Institute as "an emblem of the unity of the Empire, an exponent of the great industries and commercial resources belonging to it and a fitting national memorial of the Jubilee of the sovereign." His Royal Highness communicated to the meeting that "her Majesty the Queen would specially value the Institute as a memorial of the love and loyalty of her subjects, who are united in promoting and extending industrial and commercial resources of her dominions, and thus giving expression to the unity of the Empire."

THE *Pioneer* writes:—

"As the result apparently of the refusal of the representative Mahomedan Societies to have anything to do with the 'National Congress' of Calcutta, a more subdued tone is evident in that portion of the native Press which applauds the Congress. The *Reis and Rayyet* has a well-written article breathing only gratitude to the British Raj, for the *Pax Britannica* conferred upon the land, and for the civil and religious freedom granted for the first time to India's many castes and creeds. As the magnificent result of all this, we are told that the jarring elements have been welded into one harmonious whole and—*ecce signum*—the National Congress of Calcutta! This is an anti-climax rather, and illogical. Just so might *United Ireland* point to the National League meetings of that country as the beneficent result of British rule, and invite the manlier races of the North of Ireland to join them in consummating it."

And so it might. And all the more honour to England! It is British Rule alone that could exhibit such trustfulness. The facts of our day transcend rhetorical figures, whether anti-climaxes or hyperboles.

It is a lovely winter, and our rulers are thoroughly enjoying it. Sir ALFRED LYALL, Lieutenant-Governor of the Upper Provinces, with his daughter and his Private Secretary (J. O. Miller) and his Aide-de-camp (Major Sir G. Larpent,) has strayed out of his *Raj* and is now staying with Lord and Lady DUFFERIN at Calcutta which he reached on Wednesday.

THE Governor of Bombay has gone by sea to Sind where, after visiting the chief cities, he will return to Kurrachee, to open the Arts College on the 18th current, after which he returns.

By the end of this week the Duke of Connaught was to be at Mhow on the occasion of the Cavalry manoeuvres in that quarter, visiting Indore on the 16th, and leaving for Neemuch and Nusseerabad on the 19th.

WHO says that there is no gratitude in India? Notwithstanding Sir RIVERS has jilted the Doonraon Dewan in his assured expectation of being reappointed to the Bengal Council, to the latter's no small loss in maintaining an expensive establishment and in other ways, besides waste of time and dislocation of arrangements, Dewanji seems determined to take generous revenge by overwhelming the satrap with his attentions and to make *ponja* to the setting sun with a vengeance. For want of a better excuse, there will be a trumpery Agricultural Show at Doonraon which the Lieutenant-Governor will go to open.

SURFEITED with the Agricultural homage of Bhojpur and Bhojpur's Dewan, Sir RIVERS will proceed to Purnea to his next show. After opening about the middle of February the extension of the Bengal Central Railway there, he will go to Dacca where towards the close of the month he will preside at the grand Durbar for the investiture of Nawab GUNNY MEAH with the honors of a K. C. S. I.

THE Bank of Madras, after putting Rs. 50,000 to the Reserve Fund, pays a dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum on the past half year's business. The Bank of Bengal, with its greater business and superior advantages, has done better. During the same period it made a profit of about fifteen lacs of Rupees. After writing Rs. 60,000 off as Bad, and carrying forward Rs. 91,000 to the next year, and after putting Rs. 300,000 to the Reserve Fund, the Directors could declare a dividend of 10 per cent. for the past half year.

THE Nawab of Rampore is seriously ill.

THE Tipperah case has, after all, been committed to the sessions.

THE Governor of Madras is in mourning for the death of his only sister, Lady MARGARET BOURKE, at the age of sixty-one.

DEATHS are announced of the retired Indians Dr. NORMAN CHEVERS, Mr. BULLEN SMITH, Mr. ARTHUR GROTE, and Sir T. DOUGLAS FORSYTH.

A SEVERE thunderstorm, unusual for this time of the year, passed over South Sylhet, on the night of the 7th instant. It also rained heavily.

HENCEFORTH, the Bills and Acts of the Supreme Legislative Council will be given one publication instead of three.

THE Jammu Durbar is mourning the death of the Maharani. The Maharaja has received several visits of condolence from loyal subjects.

THE first Criminal Sessions of the year of the Bengal High Court commences on Monday, the 24th instant.

THE Punjab Chief Court finds it has no jurisdiction to try CLEGG committed for the murder of CLAY at Sibi. Has any other Court jurisdiction?

MESSRS. DILLON, O'BRIEN, HARRIS, SHEEHY, REDMOND, and CRILLY have been committed, on bail of £500 each, for conspiracy to prevent payment of rent in Ireland.

THE Maharaja of Bhurtpur celebrates the birth of a son by a ball at Agra, on the 20th instant. Sir ALFRED and Lady LYALL will add to the *eclat* by their presence.

BULGARIA has not yet got a king. Prince George of Leuchtenberg, an officer in the Russian Army is mentioned as another candidate for the throne.

MR. H. J. REYNOLDS, C.S.I., has been re-appointed a member of the Bengal Legislative Council.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.



M. MUDELIAR, leader of the opposition, Conseil-Generale, Pondicherry, has been admitted to the Legion of Honour. An example for our masters.

UPPER India is getting respectable. Fakirabad has now got its cathedral, which was on Wednesday consecrated by the metropolitan, the Bishop of Calcutta.

THE khitmutgar, UMAR BUKSH, has been, for his folly and brutality of assault on a European lady at Dharmasala, Punjab, been sentenced by the Sessions Judge at Kangra to transportation for life.

M. DE LESSEPS is confident of opening the Panama Canal for traffic in 1889. The locks may not be completed but the shipping shall be able to pass through.

GUARD T. SNELLING is completely exonerated. The High Court has set aside the order of fine under the Railway Act. He is now reinstated in the service with arrears of pay paid.

THERE is murrain among the Kangaroos of Australia. Thousands have died. The *post mortem* shows that the organs are healthy but the fat is totally absent.

A CONSTRUCTION train ran over a bullock on the 5th instant on the South Deccan Railway. All the carriages were derailed, resulting in the death of a European fireman, cleaner and three natives. But were there no cow-catchers?

ONE ARDASIR NASARVANJEE THANAVALA, L.C.E., by a notice in the Bombay Government Gazette, has adopted a new name and choses to call himself Sheikh ABDUL RAHMAN valad Sheikh ADAM, L.C.E. Are Parsee conversions to Islam common?

LORD IDDESLEIGH died suddenly—of heart disease—on the 12th instant at Lord SALISBURY'S official residence in Downing Street. While ascending the stairs, he was seized with a sudden faintness and died twenty minutes after.

His Highness RAMRAJA, the Maharaja of Travancore, has presented to the Hon'ble V. RAMIENGAR, C.S.I., Dewan, a gold salver "in recognition of the distinguished services rendered by him to the state." We hope it forebodes no retirement of the Dewan.

MORE silver in the United States. The depreciating metal has been discovered in large quantities in the North and South of Caldwell city, Kansas. It is said to underlie the entire city and several miles around.

A SMALL Cause Court Pleader again figures in the Police Court. BAMA CHURN MITTER is charged with offering a bribe of Rs. 100 to a Police Inspector in the interest of his clerk committed to the Sessions. Happy Calcutta, whose Police resent such offers!

TANTIA is still causing trouble. He with his little army raided recently on the village of Dholgaon, Haidra, in the Central Provinces, carried off some loot, shot a milkman and burned his two huts. He was pursued by Assistant Commissioner GORDON with his army, but, as hitherto, the Bhil eluded the pursuit.

MOULVIE, HAJI HAMIDBUKHT, Zemindar and extra-Assistant Commissioner of Sylhet, is exempted from personal appearance in Civil Courts. The Moulvie signified the exemption on the 11th by a dinner to the Chief Commissioner, the European ladies and official and non-official gentlemen, and illumination and fireworks.

OUR readers will please note that the National Association hold their second General Meeting on the 26th instant at the Town Hall at 4-30 P. M., in aid of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund.—Her ladyship's appeal published in our last is being responded to from all parts of India, by application for the Jubilee Cards.

SYED JAFFER HOSSEIN, Railway Magistrate, Hyderabad, was stabbed in the abdomen and the right and left breast with a Hyderabad *jumbia* at Warangal, while pronouncing judgment in a case of grievous assault and rape. The subject of his judgment retaliated the conviction. The Mahomedan criminal is in custody and the judge is progressing favorably.

THE Plymouth Solicitor, J. EDWARD CURTEIS, who has been wanted at Home—having made himself scarce without accounting £15,000, the money of the East Stonehouse Local Board, was arrested last week at the Great Eastern Hotel, by Superintendent HOGG. The Solicitor is detained in the Lock-Up pending an escort from England. Mr. REILY, at request, spared him the detention in jail in anticipation of trial.

"All newspapers in the Australian Colonies, and their number is legion, are carried free, if posted within seven days of the date of publication."

Is it not time, that further concessions should be made to the Indian press as regards the carriage of newspapers? At any rate, the "privileged" rate should be made general.

THE examination of witnesses by the Bengal Sub-Committee, Public Service Commission, commenced yesterday. We again protest against the Sub-division of the Commission. The work turned out by the Branches cannot be the true report and deliberation of the Commission. If Sir BARNES PEACOCK were on the Commission, he would have set his face against dismemberment.

GENERAL KOMAROFF'S paper, the *Svet*, publishes that

"Ghasan Khan, the ruler of Koundshout, and a friend of England, was murdered on the instigation of his son, Sandar Khan, who is the sworn enemy of England. He is now the ruler of Koundshout, and is preparing an energetic resistance in case the English should interfere assisted by their Cashmir vassal. The Chinoses in Kashgar would like to reestablish order in Koundshout, but cannot get command of a sufficient military force. Koundshout is situated between Kashgar and Cashmir and thus presents the easiest way from Russian territory to Cashmir's chief town, Srinagar."

ANOTHER leap!

"A new motor for locomotives has been successfully tried in America. Soda is used in the place of fire under the boiler. Soda is said to have much the same power as coal, without any of the offensive gases which that fuel emits. The boiler is charged with the soda, which upon being damped by a jet of steam produces an intense heat. Soda engines are now used in Berlin and other European cities very successfully, and they also traverse the St. Gothard Tunnel, under the Alps, where steam engines cannot be used, because the length of the Tunnel renders it impossible to devise a system of ventilation which will carry off the foul gases generated by a locomotive. So overpowering would those gases become that suffocation would ensue."

THE Convocation-Day Fellows of the Calcutta University are:—

"The Most Reverend Paul Gæthals, D. D., S. J., Roman Catholic Archbishop of Calcutta, the Hon. J. W. Quinton, C.S., the Hon. Raja Amir Hasan, Khan Bahadur, J. Westland, Esq., C.S., Colonel C. H. Luard, R.E., Major C. W. J. Harrison, R.R., Surgeon Major J. Scully, I.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., J. F. E. Spring, Esq., L.C.E., M.C.M.E., T. C. Lewis, Esq., M.A., Raja Luchman Singh, the Very Rev. A. Neut, S.J., Rev. W. Johnson, B. A., Ram Krishna Gopal Bhandarkar, Esq., M.A., PH.D., A. C. Edwards, Esq., M. A., Babu Brahma Mohun Mallik, Nagendra Nath Ghose, Esq., A. F. Abdur Rahman, Esq., Babu Bireswar Mitter, Babu Chandra Nath Bose, M.A., Maulvi Zahiruddin Ahmad, L.M.S."

A MOST interesting inquiry, which will come home to all animals possessing, and proud of, noses:—

"At the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held at Philadelphia in 1884, a paper was read by Messrs. E. L. Nichols and E. H. Bailey, describing their experiments designed to test the delicacy of the sense of smell in different individuals. The experimenters took a number of the strongest-smelling substances, such as oil of cloves, extract of garlic, prussic acid, cyanide of potassium, &c. Each of these was mixed with water in such proportions that, when a large number of bottles had been filled, say, with the garlic and water, each bottle was only half as strong as the previous one, and at last the garlic was so diluted that it was impossible to detect it by smell. The bottles were then disarranged, and the test was to request the individual experimented upon to arrange them in their proper order by the sense of smell. By this simple means it was found that some persons possessed a much more delicate sense of smell than others. Thus, three men were able to detect prussic acid when it was diluted with two million times (2,000,000) its weight of water—a minute proportion that could not be detected by the most refined chemical analysis. Others, again, could not smell prussic acid, even when it was present in considerable quantity. But the most remarkable fact remains to be related. The experiments were performed with these and other

strongly odorous substances on forty-four males and thirty-eight females, and it was found that in nearly all cases the sense of smell was about double as acute in men as in women. Thus the marked odour of prussic acid could be detected by men when diluted with more than one hundred times its bulk of water, whereas women fail to perceive it when diluted with twenty thousand times. Oil of lemon could be detected by men when mixed with a quarter of a million times its quantity of water, but women failed to perceive it unless the solution was more than twice as strong. Even in the case of garlic, the women were much less susceptible to its presence than the men. It is difficult to account for these remarkable differences, which must be regarded as proved; for the experiments extended over eighty-two persons and were performed by gentlemen who were accustomed to physiological investigations. In many of the lower animals, as, for example, the dog and all those carnivora that hunt by scent, the sense is out of all proportion greater than in man; but we are not aware that there is any distinction between the two sexes of the animals in this respect. The cause of the difference in this matter between men and women is quite unknown, as is the object of the distinction but it has one practical bearing that may be borne in mind. The employment of strong and potent perfumes by women may depend on their less acute sense of smell; and they would do well to bear in mind the fact that odours and perfumes which may be quite pleasant to them may be most overpowering, and decidedly unpleasant, to individuals of the other sex."—*Queen*.

PREPARATIONS are making for the celebration of the Jubilee and for presentation of addresses of admiration and satisfaction to the retiring Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. In connection with the first, the *Englishman* suggests that native *chirags* but no kerosine, be used in the illumination of the town.

AT the Viceregal Legislative Council on Friday, the 14th, the Viceroy presiding, the Protection of Inventions and Designs Bill was referred to Select Committee, the Language of Acts Bill, the Bills to amend the Sea Customs Act, 1878, &c., and the Indian Evidence Act, and the Indian Museum Trustee Bill were passed, and a Bill introduced for the better administration of her Majesty's Indian Marine Service. The Language Bill is in continuation of the Act of 1868, to avoid repetition in every Act of the Council of certain phrases and phraseology, the result of 18 years' experience in the Legislative Department. The Customs Bill imposes principally an import duty of Rs. 7-8 per imperial gallon or six quart bottles of perfumed spirits, in wood or bottles, hitherto exempt. The Evidence Bill saves the Revenue officers from disclosing their source of information in prosecutions under the Revenue law.

LIEUTENANT R. L. B. CARTER, Adjutant of the 28th Bombay Infantry and Station Staff Officer at Baroda, did not long survive the accident which befell him in the mail train. While travelling he somehow got on to the footboard and began walking it. The train passing over a creek, he was swept into it by one of the girders of the bridge. He was fearfully mangled.

BOOK-MAKERS are liable to the Income Tax and their gains are not unlawful. Such is the verdict of the Queen's Bench Division.

THE Emin Bey Relief expedition starts on the 20th instant with explorer STANLEY at the head.

THE Gilzais who broke out in autumn last, have been soundly thrashed and subdued by the vigorous measures of the Ameer who, however, will one day receive it back with compound interest. Meanwhile, the present attitude of the tribe is useful in keeping the only path between Cabul and Central Asia open, since the snow has blocked up the Hazarajat Pass.

The Ameer is pursuing his vigorous fiscal views rather than policy. The Governor of Herat, Mahomed SARWAR KHAN, is accounting for the revenues of his charge—in other words, undergoing the usual process of disgorging his irregular appropriations. His place has been given to Kazi SAADOODDEEN *pro tem*. We suppose Kazi's turn will next come, the more so as the Ameer can scarcely have forgotten his Russian partialities in connection with the Boundary Commission.

THE *Nilgiri Express* gives notice of its removal to Charing Cross. Without pretending to the mysteries of local geography, it seems to us that from the heights of Ooty to the flags of Charing Cross is too violent and absurd a leap for an Indian paper. The difference between the altitudes, and between the climates, makes it an undesirable change. The change from the scenery and associations of the Nilgiri hills to the fog and noise of East London, is a descent from the sublime to the ridiculous.

IN yesterday's morning-paper we read:—

"Her Excellency Lady Dufferin, accompanied by the Countess of Rosebery, honored the establishment of Babu S. P. Chatterji, the nurseryman and florist of Naikuldanga, with a visit on Monday evening and their Ladyships were much pleased with what they saw. Mr. Chatterji presented Lady Dufferin with a choice bouquet composed of eucharis, lilies and roses."

This florist seems to be a veritable Mælee for manners. Or, did he take her other ladyship for a lady's maid? Even as a mercenary companion, she was, in our judgment, entitled, under the circumstances, to better treatment. Where was the harm—what was the difficulty—of making another, even though inferior, bouquet? Lady Dufferin, of course, did not introduce her companion to her floral Baboo who has seen the world and might be presumed to know. We make no doubt she gave her bouquet to Lady Rosebery. The Baboo's mistake about the rank of the new visitor arose, we guess, from the dead uniformity of European costume. In the absence of sumptuary warrant of precedence in these days of cheap and nasty, when satin and velvet are produced from flax and jute, it is hard for foreigners to distinguish Governesses from Governors' wives.

THE *Advocate of India* of Bombay and the *Statesman* and the *Indian Daily News* have distinguished themselves in the Indian Press for the wisdom and moderation of their comments on the late Congress. As a specimen, we quote the following from the last named journal:—

"It was remarked by a Hindoo gentleman that 'their leaders' were not present. This, in a certain sense, was correct; but the remark does not recognise the change that has come over society, of which the speaker himself is an example. There was a time when Maharajahs, Rajahs, &c., were the leaders of Hindoo society; and certainly they were conspicuous by their absence on Monday evening. But who are and who have ever been the leaders of men? Not nobles by the mere fact of their position, though there have been occasions when men have held the position of noblemen and have been leaders. There have been leaders in all ranks of society. Wat Tyler was a leader of men though only a blacksmith; Cavendish was a leader of men, when he and a few others, in a small house on Whittington Moor, arranged to bring about the Revolution that placed William of Orange on the throne of England. Cavendish, however, was a Duke or became one, as well as a man, and would probably have been a leader in any rank of life. So it will be in India. It will not be the well-appointed wardrobe, or the lengthy title that will enable the wearer to be a leader of men. It will be the cultivated understanding, the active brain, the moral courage begotten of right that will lead men, and accomplish the revolution of the future. These are facts that are beginning to be realised, that will multiply themselves, and grow in strength till their full purpose is accomplished. The work will not be done in a day or a generation; though it will be not the less certain in the end. Those who are active now, will not see the full fruition of their labours. There may be years or even generations of suffering and disappointment in India as there have been in Europe, and that are still before some of the struggling nationalities. Patriots in all countries have had to endure much, to suffer much, and to wait for the result which they have not always seen except by the eye of faith. There is no reason why Indian experience will differ from that of other nations; and those who are most burning with zeal, will do well to accept the injunction of Longfellow, and while—

"Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labour and to wait."

He is no true friend who has not the courage to tell unpleasant truths about us.

## Editorial Notes.

THE Commander-in-Chief is still in Upper Burma, superintending the grinding operations to bring the Burmans to a proper frame of mind to accept the blessings of British rule. He is not only directing the organization of the forces in Burma and the plan of the present campaign, but also examining the country towards keeping the people in permanent subjection.

THE official version of the military situation in Burma is this: It is now admitted that, till within three weeks, matters were going against us. Up to the first week of December, the scattered British forces were not only helpless and useless towards the subjugation of the country, but they were themselves in imminent danger from the ubiquitous Dacoits—so-called. The British outposts were being over and over surprised by these guerrilla bands who, however, almost always managed to escape so soon as any resistance could be offered. Up to the middle of last month, the operations continued to tell the old tale of disaster. There were frequent engagements of small parties, but they did not all end favorably to us. Even when, as often enough happened, the enemy was beaten off, the British lost heavily, specially in officers, and the

struggle was soon after renewed. Meanwhile the forces were reinforced and they proceeded steadily, regularly scouring the country, beating up the jungle, forcing the enemy out, surprising him in his hiding places, surrounding his stockades, and so forth.

THE most satisfactory news from Upper Burma is the renewal of the Shans and China traffic. The long files of pack ponies and bullocks carrying goods on their backs, so characteristic of the trade with the latter Empire, have again commenced to appear in Mandalay.

THE Viceroy may now have some undisturbed sleep. Sir JOHN GORST, Under-Secretary for India, speaking at Chatham, on the 13th instant, assured the world that the troubles in Burma had ended.

THE Native Chiefs have narrowly escaped another strain and drain combined. They will not be summoned to Calcutta to join in the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee in the middle of next month. The ceremony will, no doubt, lose its pomp and circumstance as a great pageant, but the poor fellows have been so harassed of late in a variety of shapes and ways that we really do not grudge them the relief they have obtained from the sympathetic consideration of Lord DUFFERIN. They will have their duties for the day all the same, though. As on the occasion of the great Delhi Assembly, the native rulers who could not attend, held similar Durbars in their own states and seats in furtherance of the same sole object—the proclamation of the assumption by Her Majesty the Queen of the title of Empress of India. So now they surely will celebrate the Jubilee in their own ways with their own ceremonies and demonstrations of loyalty and joy.

FIVE British officers, we are glad to learn, have passed in the first examination in the Russian language. This is promising to begin with. It will reduce the chances of such scandals as that connected with Mr. CHARLES MARVIN. It is a great shame for a Great Power to have in its Services no scholar in the Russian tongue—the vernacular of another Great Power. The disgrace is all the greater when it is considered that that Great Power is its greatest rival, whom it expects to meet in the field or in negotiation any day and to continue to do so so long as both will remain the Chief Powers in Asia! Even the great Government of India, with its highly-paid establishments, and its sumptuous arrangements in all departments, had scarcely any command of Russian linguistics. Within the last few years, we know there was no provision for translating from Russian. And this while millions have been poured out like water in mere ignorant and unmanly fear of Russian approach! We have ourselves once indirectly helped towards the translation of some papers of Government and can therefore speak positively to its helplessness. This is not as it should be. A great Government should not be dependent upon such makeshifts. In the long run, it is prudent to expend on these necessities of Imperial rule. And yet we would sooner move an army at an enormous cost on hearing some cock and bull story of some beggars supposed to be Cossack officers having been seen in some waste lands of some miserable khan in some obscure corner of Central Asia, than maintain a decent regular staff for translation and collation of information from Russian for the guidance of the Government. Of course, the best thing is to interest British officers in the language, and it is satisfactory to know that a beginning is being made.

WE read in the *Petit Bengal* of a most amusing scene that recently occurred in the Mexican Parliament. M<sup>r</sup>. THIERS, a French deputy representing the Department of Rhône, wishing to turn to advantage his holiday, set out on a voyage to Mexico. Arrived there, M. THIERS was pressed to be present at one of the *séances* of the Chamber of Deputies. He had to take the usual permission of the questor. Hearing the name and the request, that functionary was seized with an inexpressible emotion and cried out—"THIERS is within our walls, what good fortune!—what happiness! THIERS come to attend the sitting of the Chamber." In due course, THIERS made his appearance in the Chamber; and when pointed out to the President, that exalted officer quickly rose from his seat and invited the French representative to take his seat at the side of the questor's chair, without apparently any anxiety on the score of close neighbourhood of such an apparition. Then addressing the assembly, he said, "Messieurs, this is a

singular honour M. THIERS has done us in deigning to pay us his visit. M. THIERS is not only a glory to France, he is the glory to the whole world. I believe I am the interpreter of my honorable colleagues in offering to this illustrious statesman the homage of the Mexican nation."

Deputy THIERS was fully equal to the occasion. With the perfect self-possession of a Frenchman of the world, he gravely listened to all the palaver and bowed to the compliments. When the speaker concluded, he rose and in a few eloquent words informed the Chamber how touched he was with such a mark of distinction.

JACKALS are not only notoriously carnivorous but also cannibal. Their taste of human flesh is, luckily, confined to carrion. It is an age of progress, however. And progress is various. While the Feejee wallahs are abandoning their Domestic institution of utilising superannuated grand mammas and other encumbrances of flesh and blood, for the table—as *pièces de résistance*—improvement among other races and beings may take the form of extending the range of their dietary. All depends upon the advent of the Hour and the Being—rather than Man, for the transcendental theory applies beyond humanity. The Prophet and the Hero are needed for the regeneration not of men only but of all manunals. Now, the latter saviour of society has made his appearance among the Bengal Jackals. His mission seems to be to teach his fellows to eat of carrion from the living human subject—if the Irishism may be allowed. As, since the death of LESSING, beasts have ceased to be literary, the Prophet has no place among them, (for even the illiterate Mahomet was inspired into wondrous poesy)—the Hero is the more eligible teacher, reforming by example rather than by precept. The new leader of Young Jackaland has, by way of inaugural discourse, distinguished himself by a feat of daring and pluck. He opened his campaign against man and pursued it with a reckless zeal, no matter if he should perish in the war.

There is no Hero—at least for human cognizance—without his Historiographer, as no Punch without his Judy, no Don Quixote without his Dulcinea, no King without his Buffoon; they bring out each other. Indeed, history is a condition *sine qua non* of the recognition of heroism. Hence, it is said that there were great men before Agamemnon, but they are unremembered for absence of a Homer. So, it is quite possible that there were heroes before among the Jackal tribe but there is no chronicle of their lives. The present warrior and reformer has found a more than worthy historian in the *Englishman*. A few weeks back our contemporary chronicled the crowning feat. The scene of the bloody engagement was in Sylhet on the borders of the Tipparah Raj. The time was evening. Sir Jackal was out in his knightly quest of adventure. Suddenly crossed his path the hereditary enemy in the shape of a coolie from the Chetali Tea Garden. Not one of your trembling scare-crows of Calcutta bent under a weight of 40lb, but a regular healthy muscular strong plantation labourer, and altogether a foeman worthy of the knight. So the latter at once charged. It was a determined savage conflict in which there was no hope of quarter on either side. The representative of humanity was equal to the occasion. Though unarmed, he fought bravely, tooth and nail. At length he succeeded in beating the brute off. But it was in vain. Though repulsed, the enemy still maintained the field. After his first decisive advantage, Sir Coolie beat a hasty but orderly retreat. He was intercepted in the march. Again a dreadful engagement took place, with great carnage. Sir Jackal's onset was furious and obstinate. At length he floored the man. Still the latter did not give it up. He persisted and fought desperately, till he brought the other down to his own level. There they lay, fainted from bleeding and exhaustion, yet still fighting on, tearing each other as they rolled on the earth. This went on sometime, for it was war to the bitter end, but in the end it was the dog of a jackal that died, the chronicler being human. Never mind, death does not matter, they were both heroes, man and beast. The latter deserved honorable burial at our hands. We hope our contemporary will let us know how the former does under his terrible wounds.

*Holloway's Pills and Ointment.*—The combined ill effects of over-crowding, sedentary occupations and monotony of life are only too well known to those who have to pass the best part of their lives labouring in factories and crowded workrooms. The compulsory confinement weakens the general health and induces chronic constipation, indigestion, and various forms of skin diseases. Holloway's remedies are of priceless value to persons of this class, for they can be used without entailing loss of work, being purely vegetable in their composition, and consequently act without harshness on the most delicate system. The experience of more than forty years proves that no means surpass Holloway's remedies for curing bad legs, bad breasts, piles, and wounds of all kinds.

EVEN those who like ourselves take a peep into it from the distance of the public thoroughfare, can plainly see that Government House is now full. Not only is the whole house and every available space occupied, but tents have been pitched in the grounds, giving the place quite a martial aspect. It is also lively with more peaceful sport. The viceregal Palace is apt during the cold weather to become a great guest-house. This year from the extraordinary influx into the country of distinguished visitors, this character has reached its height. We graminivorous, or at most piscivorous, Hindus, who, without being of it, gaze at it with a foolish wonder, are at a loss for finding the proper things to say on the occasion. We beg to be excused for our awkwardness. We think there can be no harm in expressing a hope that there will be no stinting of viceregal hospitality. The Crown keeps its representative in funds sufficient for liberality. Nor do the people—the native-born subjects of the Crown—press upon the grant for hospitality, or the part of the pay that may be reasonably expected to be expended upon it. For anything that we care, the whole part and more may be employed for the purpose. We hope the reception will be worthy of the proconsul who rules the Mogul Empire. We hope the Government House pillaus and kabobs are of the most delicious, and Lord DUFFERIN'S wines of the choicest. We have not caught any strains of the *saringi* or *setar* from the direction of the great house. Is a Nautch inadmissible?

The guests of the highest political importance are two—the Earl of ROSIBERRY and Mr. HERBERT GLADSTONE. The latter lives partly with his brother the well-known merchant. The former has gone to Barrackpore whence he proceeds to Darjeeling to-morrow.

THE *Statesman* is giving inestimable service to the country and doing truly loyal work by the courage with which it is repressing the wild enthusiasm of youthful reformers, at the same time that it is encouraging the people to condense vapoury aspirations into actual desires and reduce lofty schemes of regeneration to feasible entertainable projects. The value of such an independent British counsellor and supporter of our cause can never be over-rated. No native patriot perhaps can speak with the authority of an experienced English politician whose motive is above suspicion.

Our countrymen have unmistakably set their heart on the reconstruction of the Legislative Councils on a popular basis. That is the proper statement. To call it a demand for the creation of a Parliament in India, is to give the dog a bad name with the object of hanging it, without fear of reproach from within or without. To confound it with Home Rule is to misrepresent the Indian reformers and alarm the Government and the British public against granting a reasonable and modest request. Such at least is the averment of the spokesmen. If the resolution of the Congress should be deemed to transcend the limits of moderation, the natives are too good fellows not to be thankful for any tolerably real boon. Some of the writings in the course of the agitation for popular recognition in the legislative machinery may be quoted perhaps to show that the promoters of the movement contemplate more sweeping changes, but the authors themselves have since supplied their own commentaries, and these are eminently satisfactory; at least they must be so to all candid minds. Nothing could be better than Mr. ALLAN HUME'S recent correspondence. His last letter to the *Statesman* is simply a settler. It is a perfect justification of the call for organic reform and will go far to disarm opposition. It must satisfy every man of the moderation of the programme and of the expediency of accepting it. The *Statesman* has carried the vindication further. It contributes to the movement the authority, as well as the observation, of a looker-on. It drives the point home with all the incisiveness for which it is famous. In some admirable articles it has pressed the necessity of inviting the people's cooperation in legislation and Government, with the calm welcome of one accustomed to reason on affairs. Finally, it has clenched the argument with the authority of the wisest Englishman of our century. The production by Mr. ROBERT KNIGHT of the quotation from the late Sir GEORGE CORNEWALL LEWIS'S work is itself worth a victory.

OUR readers must be familiar with that unique institution, the Savitri Library. We have before dwelt upon the importance of the work initiated by the founders. They have now laid another burden of obligation on the country by issuing a volume of Transactions of the Society. It is a goodly sized thick volume of condensed matter, well

printed in good type on good paper. This is indeed a valuable book, consisting as it does of all the discourses read at the annual meetings of the Society and the Prize Essays by Hindu ladies which won the Society's advertised reward. Without set purpose the volume functions in Bengali as the Oxford Essays and the Cambridge Essays function in English. It may be called the Savitri Essays. The subjects are all interesting, and their treatment is varied. There is not in Bengali so much good reading or valuable matter in any other work. And no wonder. For here we have focussed the lights of the highest and best souls in Bengali.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1887.

THE JUBILEE

FOR

THE FIFTY YEARS' REIGN OF

THE QUEEN OF GREAT-BRITAIN & IRELAND

AND

EMPRESS OF INDIA.

AMONGST the thirty-five Sovereigns who have reigned over England for a period of eight-hundred and twenty-one years, since the accession of WILLIAM of Normandy in 1066, there are only three who have occupied the throne for as long or a longer period than QUEEN VICTORIA, *viz.*, HENRY III. 56 years, EDWARD III. 50 years, and her grandfather GEORGE III. for 60 years. But during the period that these Sovereigns have reigned, not one can shew such a roll of victory, such an addition of territory, such advancement in knowledge, and such an increase in wealth and prosperity as has accrued to Great Britain under the beneficent rule of India's Empress. That a great deal of this advancement, improvement, and riches can be traced to Great Britain's intimate connexion with the East, is a fact which can scarcely be controverted. As the glorious luminary rises in the East and enlightens the day, so the original seat of enlightenment and learning was the East. Thence sprang the arts, the sciences, and the philosophy which now shed their rays over the remotest regions of the globe. When the natives of Great Britain were a parcel of savages who clothed themselves in the skins of wild animals, or, if they were too poor to procure these, daubed over their naked bodies with blue paint, India was a civilized country where the laws were justly administered, and where architecture, painting, sculpture, astronomy, medicine, music, and even the drama were cultivated and taught amongst her teeming populations. It cannot be denied that the country fell back from these arts and sciences into a state of comparative ignorance, through intestine commotions, and warfare, but particularly so from the successive devastating inroads of the barbarian hordes from Central Asia, known as the Pathan and Tartar invasions. But was Europe at or about that period by one iota in a better state? The same or similar barbarian who overran India, did the same to Europe, destroying religion and throwing the countries of that Continent back into such a state of ignorance that that period is now known in history as the Dark Ages.

As the Kohinoor which now sparkles in our Empress's diadem (but which originally came from India) far surpasses all the other gems of the Regalia of the Crown of England, so India itself far surpasses in real value and population all the other possessions of the British Empire. Nor are the people of this country, especially the educated classes, one whit be-

hind the other countries under the domination of Great Britain in loyalty to their Beloved Empress, nay, they are in fact much more loyal than some countries nearer England. And, to be sure, Her Majesty's reception of the Indians at the Colonial Exhibition last year, her condescension, kindness, and courtesy to all of them, especially to the poor old painter of Delhi (since dead) were enough to draw the hearts of all classes of Indians to her. At the same time, the Royal grace shews the brightest contrast with the ordinary treatment of Indians in India by our rulers—those autocrats the members of the Covenanted Civil Service. Would that haughty Satrap, Sir ALFRED LYALL, have treated the aged Indian painter with the same condescension and kindness with which he was treated by our Queen? We trow not. Sir ALFRED LYALL would in all probability have imagined that his dignity would have been lowered and his *izzat* damaged, if he had shaken hands with an Indian in the position of the Indian painter, as that Deputy Commissioner of Lucknow did when he refused to shake hands with Raja RAMPAL SING (one of the Barons of Oudh). (9569)

The Indian Civil Service have still one great lesson to learn, that is, Civility costs nothing. But what are we to expect when the sons of tinkers, tailors, shoemakers, and undertakers *et hoc genus omne* are pitchforked into positions in the Covenanted Civil Service which ought never to have been occupied except by gentlemen of good families. A Native of India is a natural aristocrat. Money is not his criterion of gentility, but birth. When one native makes the acquaintance of another and is inclined to feel friendship for him, his first question is, What caste are you? In sending men to rule over the Indians, it would behove the commission to particularly remember this fact, namely, that an Indian puts great faith in men of good family—not such as there are unfortunately many in the present Covenanted Service. For, to use the words of a local rhymster,

"Many men there are out here whose fathers  
"Were selling boots, hats and breeches,"

who are always standing upon their *izzat*, forgetting that really they have precious little to lose and are therefore afraid of losing what little they have acquired by the fortuitous circumstance of being in the Covenanted Civil Service. These men should really remember the old saying—"If you respect others they will respect you" and act up to it. As we have before stated, there are no people in the Empire who so sincerely wish for the prosperity and honor of Old England as do the educated people of India. Nor are there any people under the dominion of the English Crown who would come forward so unanimously and loyally as they did during the Panjdeh incident, not only with mere offers but with actual solid help if England ever really required it. Such being really and truly the case, the present opportunity ought to be taken advantage of to draw the heart of India's people into closer sympathy and accord with the Crown of England. Why not give to the eldest son of the Prince of Wales (who is of age and has no title as yet) and to the eldest sons of all future Princes of Wales, the title and designation of the Prince Imperial of India? It would be an appropriate memento of this year of Jubilee. Our Prince Imperial's shield and armorial bearings should be something in this style, so as to symbolize this great Empire of India in all its varied component parts:

The shield should have a cross on the top space to designate the religion of the ruling power, in the

centre a crescent, below the crescent a flame of fire for the Parsees, and at the four corners a *trisul* (trident) which would indicate that the Hindoos were four times as numerous as the Mahomedans and Parsis. Diagonally across the shield should be a broad blue wave line to signify the Ganges, the supporters should be a Royal Bengal Tiger and a Brahma Bull. The Tiger and Bull both to be collared with a broken chain attached. The crest to be the Prince of Wales' plume springing from a *trisul* (trident) charged with a crescent and the motto *ich dien* in Sanscrit which means, in that language, I serve, and which, strange to say, comes originally from India, the plumes meaning nothing less than the Hindoo trinity expressed by the three white sacred marks worn by high caste Hindoos on their foreheads. One more honor might, at the same time, be conceded to the Indian Empire at this festive season, the Jubilee of our Empress, one that would add to the honor of England as well as of this country. It is this. That from henceforth, on the Royal Standard of Great Britain, the Bengal Tiger shall be put as follows—at the foot of the Royal Shield but above the motto, the Royal Bengal Tiger *couchant, regardant*, gorged with a collar attached to which is a broken chain. This would imply that England has given liberty to India and that this Empire is now under the Shield and protection of Great Britain, but at the same time (*couchant regardant*) is quite ready (on the watch) to take her share in the defence of that Shield.

ANDREW W. HEARSEY.

#### THE TAGORE LAW PROFESSORSHIP.

WE understand that the election of the Tagore Law Professor for the next year will take place within the course of the current month. Considering how unsuccessful some of the past Lecturers have been, it may not be inopportune just now to offer a few remarks with reference to the principle on which the selection ought to be made. Although entertaining little hope that our remarks will carry any great weight with the authorities of the University, we must do our duty, and try to prevent the abuse of a great trust and the waste of a great charity. The Tagore Law Professorship was founded about the year 1870, on the endowment of the late Babu PROSONNO COOMAR TAGORE. During the first three years, the post was held by Mr. COWELL who lectured on the several branches of Hindu law during two years. But as he had no knowledge whatever of Sanskrit, he had to depend entirely on case law and on English translations of the *Dayabhaga*, the *Mitakshara*, &c.,—translations almost devoid of meaning. The result was that his so-called Lectures are nothing but compilations of the arbitrary and conflicting rulings laid down by the Judges of the Superior Courts of Law in their ignorance of the subject. At a later period, Dr. JOLLY was invited from Germany to teach us the law of our country. Dr. JOLLY had some knowledge of Sanskrit. But he knew nothing whatever of case law and, what is still more important, he had not that training without which the *Dayabhaga* and the *Mitakshara* are very nearly as unintelligible in Sanskrit as they are in English. The presumption of Dr. JOLLY is simply ludicrous; but it is hardly more astonishing than the simplicity of the learned members of the Faculty who elected him. Neither the Doctor nor the wise Conscript Fathers of our University seem to have been aware that, from its very nature, Hindu law must be beyond the comprehension of foreigners and that, even in the present state of India, there are Pandits in the country at



whose feet the Orientalists of Europe might learn the subject for years with profit.

It ought to be obvious to the learned Members of the Faculty, that it is not possible to acquire a thorough knowledge of Hindu Law without that training which can be had only in the great centres of Hindu learning. Our native Sanskrit scholars never even attempt to study the Smritis without the help of a teacher and without those facilities for mastering the subject which can be had only by living in constant association with a large number of students capable of raising and solving knotty legal questions. To those who have any knowledge of the subject, the fact must be clear, that a mere knowledge of the Sanskrit language or of case-law does not suffice to make any one a Hindu lawyer, unless he has, at the same time, that native grasp and that intimate familiarity with the texts and the rules of interpretation and legal maxims of Hindu Jurisprudence, which only the few great Pundits of the country possess.

It is feared by some that the adoption of the true principles of the Hindu legal system would unsettle the law as administered now. But, as most of the earlier rulings were based upon the opinions of Pundits, the actual decisions are correct in the majority of cases. The uncertainty in the Hindu Law as administered by the British Courts at present, is mainly due to certain wrong principles which have been accepted by the profession without question, but for which there is no authority whatever in the original treatises. For instance, the actual decisions as to the power of widows to adopt, are all unexceptionable. But it has been erroneously taken for granted, that, in adopting, the widow acts as agent for her husband, and hence it becomes impossible to reconcile the law of the several schools on the point with the Smriti texts which are accepted as binding by all of them. Similarly, there is no authority whatever in Hindu Law for the principle of *factum valet* or for the doctrine of spiritual benefit. Yet these principles have been not only accepted without question by the profession, but have formed the basis of several of the later decisions of the superior Courts of law.

If the subject be carefully considered, it would appear, that the adoption of the true principles of Hindu Law would tend to make it more certain instead of unsettling it. Whatever line of action be taken by the superior Courts of Law, it cannot be worth while for a learned body like the University to employ the patronage at its disposal for the purpose of compiling case-law, or for the mere mechanical work of translating a few passages from the original treatises. The scientific study of Hindu Law cannot fail to be interesting and instructive, whether its true principles be adopted or not by the Judges who administer it. We, therefore, consider that the University cannot make a better use of its patronage than by encouraging the production of works on Hindu Law as it really is, and not as it has been made to be by Judges who are admitted to be wholly unacquainted with it. Even, from the point of view of the practical lawyer, such works cannot but be regarded as valuable additions to the legal literature in English. For they would enable the profession to see how far the true principles of Hindu Law can be accepted now without creating a disturbance in existing titles.

It is not for us to recommend any particular candidate. We humbly ask the authorities to make better use of their patronage than they have done hitherto. There are hundreds of practitioners in the country

who are qualified to compile case law. There are also many among the graduates of our University who possess sufficient knowledge of Sanskrit and English to be able to translate any work from one language to the other. But there are very few persons qualified to give a correct exposition of the Hindu Law; and if the authorities have any regard for their name and fame, they should be far above being swayed by considerations of interest or expediency. While the principle of Self-Government is yet on its trial, our countrymen in the Senate ought to be especially on their guard not to give any handle to the malice of their enemies by abusing their power for the benefit of friends. The experience of the past has proved conclusively that the successful practitioners of the Courts of Law are not necessarily the best Hindu lawyers. The Tagore Law Lectures by Mr. COWELL and Dr. JOLLY being now admitted to be failures, it is much to be desired that the authorities should enlist the services of a real Hindu lawyer to lecture on the several topics of Hindu Jurisprudence. While the field of Hindu Law is yet a *terra incognita* to our English lawyers, it would be a sort of mockery to encourage the compilation of the case law with regard to Torts and Riparian rights. We strongly recommend that the Lecturer for the coming year should be required to lecture on some branch of Hindu law. We strongly urge also that the selection be so made as not to disappoint the expectations of the Senate and the legal public.

"I sincerely trust," said Dr. HUNTER in his speech in the last Convocation of the University, "that some among you (the graduates of the University) will yet prove to Europe that a new class of intellectual workers has arisen in India, better equipped, and not less patient of labor than the old \* \* \* It matters not what branch of vernacular literature you take up. Towards whatever quarter you set sail, there are new Americas to discover \* \* \* Believe me this University will know how to honor such a man." The promise thus made to encourage original research, is worthy of the learning and fame of the great scholar whose sentiments we have quoted. We only hope that, as Vice-Chancellor of the University and as a Member of the Supreme Legislature of India, he will do his best to fulfil his promise.

#### THE DOM OF THE DECCAN COLLEGE.

It would be a serious libel on the character of our rulers to suppose that their present attitude towards education, although extremely unfortunate, is due to the influence of any false fears or false hopes. The suggestion that it is due to motives of alarm, although it is a common enough suggestion, must be abandoned as unfounded. Whatever may be thought of the motives of our Government in discountenancing higher education, the fact remains undisputed that its policy, during the last dozen or fifteen years, has been consistently inconsistent with all principles of wisdom and benevolence. The present departure from its old policy is as unfortunate as it is unaccountable; it is fraught with the worst consequences alike to England and to India. That our governors should forget so suddenly the greatest lessons of history and abandon themselves to a policy worthy, perhaps, of a half-crazed Sultan of Morocco, is a circumstance of which all true Englishmen ought to be ashamed. Yet our present rulers are doing no better. They commenced with the Punjab, endeavouring (with

what result, we have yet to see) to undo what they had done by abolishing the institutions which had been the means of imparting higher education to the people of that province; and they are now bent upon doing the same work of destruction in the Deccan. It seems as if our rulers have, somehow or other, entirely changed their ideas respecting the ends of Government; as if these did not go beyond a mere regard for the life and property of the subjects. Is that all? Where, then, would be the difference between an enlightened and a semi-barbarous state—between England and Morocco? Surely, it was not reserved for the English race to work out the rankest form of Machiavelism to a bitter end. We hope for better things yet. It cannot be too often repeated that the strongest tie that binds India to England is not the tie of the sword but the tie of confidence. We still believe they are not many (of the ruling race, we mean) who really hope to keep India down at the point of the bayonet. Not many, let us hope—and that for the best interests of England herself—are yet prepared to endorse the un-soldierlike, even old-womanish opinion of Sir FRED ROBERTS that it was an original mistake on the part of the English Government to have at all extended to the people of India the benefits of Western education.

Now that the Government of Lord REAY is seriously bent upon withdrawing their aid from the Deccan College, it may be well to contemplate some of the probable consequences of the proposed step. That it will meet with universal displeasure from the whole community, goes without saying. The testimony of Principal WORDSWORTH touching this point is entitled to the most careful consideration from Lord REAY and his advisers. Principal WORDSWORTH says, speaking of the educated classes:—"I believe that these classes now regard the efforts of Government in the direction of higher education as affording the most indisputable proof of the genuine good-will of the English nation and Government, and their desire to associate the natives of the country hereafter to a greater degree, with the Government of the country. I do not believe that the same effect would be produced by indirect support given to local efforts, by which plan a heavy burden would certainly be imposed on a few enlightened persons and a fresh impulse given to efforts which, however disinterested and laudable, are certain to promote hereafter the disturbing element of religious rivalries." The cause of higher education will be injured, but such injury can be only of a temporary character. One inevitable consequence will be that there will spring up, side by side with the Missionary Institutions, Colleges founded by the natives themselves on a non-Christian basis. The Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University has distinctly warned the Government against the evil that is likely to result from the competition of Colleges founded on directly antagonistic religious bases. The plea of economy is thus very neatly disposed of by Principal WORDSWORTH:—"The cost of the Deccan College is about Rs. 50,000, a sum, I suppose, about equal to the salary of a single Member of Council. If any one maintains that this is an extravagant sum to be devoted by the State to providing the opportunities of European education to a poor but intelligent class in a city (Poona) where the highest offices of Government were once open to members of this caste, I must express my respectful dissent from that opinion. I think that the withdrawal of the grant to the Deccan College would be impolitic and unjust, and would

provoke legitimate discontent." We earnestly hope Lord REAY will not easily commit himself to a line of action so utterly at variance with the truest principles of good government.

#### THE EXCHANGE DIFFICULTY.\*

We have been flooded with publications on the currency question of the hour. We shall try to notice them. To-day we take up one of them—Mr. Christophoridi's pamphlet. This gentleman has from the beginning of the exchange difficulty kept himself before the public by his writings in the correspondence columns of the local press. As his pamphlet is representative of much of the writing on currency matters, we shall accord to it a somewhat extended notice.

The name of Mr. Christophoridi's brochure is misleading. From the title one would expect a discussion of the causes of the fall of the rupee in value, the author has nowhere, throughout the pamphlet, considered the causes. There is nothing on it in it, except an incidental allusion in one place where it is stated (p. 16):—"Is the fall in value of silver due, to over-production of the metal, and can it be proved by correct statistics, or is it owing to speculation and forced sales caused by panic? As in the first case any attempt to remedy the Exchange is useless, since the rupee is not actually worth even 1s 6d, and will never be worth more unless the production of gold increase comparatively as much as silver did; while in the 2nd case, even a temporary remedy of the exchange is of some value, since it is impossible to say when speculation may take the other turn, and so raise the value of silver."

What is the value of such a chance suggestion? Not having made a regular enquiry into the actual production of gold and silver, or their relative abundance or scarcity in the market, the writer is not in a position to answer the first question correctly. As regards the 2nd question of his own, he tacitly assumes that the fall is due to speculation, ignoring thereby that the effect of speculation is as much to lower as to raise the value of silver, and that a continuous movement in one direction only—that is a declining direction—can not be due to mere speculation. Speculation, the effect of which is so systematic and one-sided, can not be anything else than a real cause covered from the ordinary view. The effect of a mere speculation can only be a temporary fluctuation in the price of silver, both upwards and downwards.

The author in this pamphlet asks the Government to take the following steps to raise the value of the rupee to its former limit of 2s. each:—

1st. That Her Majesty's Mints will coin rupees only for Government and nobody else.

2nd. That Paper Currency Notes will be circulated all over India and England at the rate of £1=Rs. 10, commencing with £5 or Rs. 50 notes, which will be cashed equally either in India in rupees or in England in pounds sterling.

3rd. That the Secretary of State for India will effect his own remittances directly by actual shipments of Notes unless he can obtain not less than 1s-11d in the rupee, allowing one penny for expenses, risks, and delay in which case he may offer his drafts to the commercial Houses."

\* *Exchange; the Causes of the Fall in value of the Rupee and the Means of raising it up to two shillings.* By C. Christophoridi. Catholic Orphan Press.

19569.

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# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS, LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 1887.

No. 257

## The Week.

SIR ALFRED LYALL, with Miss LYALL, having paid a short visit to Lord DUFFERIN, has returned to his Raj.

LORD and Lady Roseberry left Barrackpore for Darjeeling on Sunday and returned to Calcutta on Thursday last. Darjeeling had other noble guests in Prince LEOPOLD, brother of the Duchess of Connaught, and the Duke and Duchess of Manchester.

WE learn from the Chandernagore paper, the *Petit Bengali* that "Her Excellency Lady Dufferin, accompanied by Lord and Lady Roseberry, Mr. WALLACE MACKENZIE [sic] and Lord BERESFORD, paid a visit to Chandernagor on Saturday last. On their landing at the Chowdry Ghat, the visitors were received by M. FARINE, *Chef de Service*; and after taking some refreshments, Lady Dufferin and her suite with the *Chef de Service* and Consul General of France, drove through the principal streets of Chandernagor—rich in *souvenirs* which are her life."

SIR CHARLES AITCHISON, Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, will return from his work on the Public Service Commission to be at his capital during the Jubilee celebration.

A DISTRESSING panic has for some days this week been prevailing amongst the servant class in this city, similar to the *galakata* scare of some years ago. It is said that 500 lives are wanted to be sacrificed for the success of the new Hooghly Bridge, and the absurdest stories are afloat as to some such sacrifices having already taken place at Burrabazar and other places after nightfall. Our own porters were dreadfully agitated a few mornings back.

MAHOMED YUSUF, Deputy Collector, Coconada, has been sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment and fine of Rs. 3,000 for bribery and extortion.

THE suspicion of incendiarism raised by Dr. MULLER's letter as being at the bottom of the fire at the Madras Park, has been dispelled by the confused evidence of that reverend gentleman himself at the Coroner's inquest.

THE Bill for the survey of the Town of Calcutta was passed by the Bengal Council on 15th instant.

WHAT conflicting notions are being exchanged on the marriage question! While Mr. MALABARI is dead against what he calls Infant Marriage, the Chief Justice of Travancore would forbid the marriage of men passed fifty. That is, between the different reformers, the poor Indian must not be in a hurry to taste the joys of matrimony, and yet if he do not look sharp and seize the nick—or neck—of time for his purpose, he may find himself stopped by the law of limitation!

THE telegram about the arrest of Anglo-Indian officers as British spies in Russia, has proved a *canard*. Other telegrams seem also to be pure fabrications from some mischievous agency, which our contemporary of the *Statesman* fancies must exist somewhere and which it is certainly worth any pains to track out. The appointment of Mr. MACLEAN as Under-Secretary for India in place of Sir JOHN GORST

seems apparently to be without foundation as Sir JOHN does not, after all, succeed Sir HOLLAND in the Council of Education.

LORD RIPON, in a speech at New Cross, predicted the certain return to Parliament of Mr. LAL MOHUN GHOSE, some day or other. The sooner, the better, say we. The prediction loses half its value by its uncertainty as to time.

THIS is worthy the ingenuity and thirst of the enlightened West:—

"Prohibition Bibles" have been invented in Georgia, U.S., to evade the prohibition to sell spirits. Apparently they are really bound editions of the Scriptures, but actually they are merely boards concealing a bottle of whisky. By touching a spring at one end the other flies open, and the neck of the bottle appears."

We read—what is modestly called unusual incident—

"An unusual incident has occurred at the Carl Theatre of Vienna. A popular actor came on the stage perfectly tupsy. He screamed jokes at the public, bantered the orchestra in Italian, ran round the stage kissing the actresses, and in fact made such an exhibition of himself that the curtain had to be lowered. The engagement of this too festive comedian has been cancelled."

The fools! The poor fellow gave them a rich bit of low comedy and they didn't see it!

REVISED rules for the award of Junior and Senior scholarships, having obtained the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, have been published. The Junior scholarships are of three grades, 10 of the first grade, of Rs. 20 value, 47 of the 2nd of Rs. 15, and 95 of the third of Rs. 10. The first grade scholarships are awarded to the 10 candidates at the Entrance Examination who obtain the highest marks, the remaining scholarships being allotted to the several Commissioners' Divisions as follows:—

	Second grade.	Third grade.
Burdwan Division ...	6	12
Town of Calcutta ...	5	10
Presidency Division ...	7	13
Rajshahye Division ...	6	10
Dacca Division ...	6	12
Chittagong Division ...	2	6
Patna Division ...	6	12
Bhagulpore Division ...	3	9
Orissa Division ...	4	6
Chota Nagpore Division ...	2	5
Total ...	47	95

The Senior scholarships are of two grades, 10 of the first grade, carrying stipends of Rs. 25 per month, and 40 of the second grade of Rs. 20 per month, the former being open to all affiliated institutions and being awarded to the candidates who obtain the highest marks while the latter forty are distributed as follows:—

	Number of scholarships.
Town of Calcutta ...	9
Presidency Division outside Calcutta ...	5
Burdwan Division ...	8
Rajshahye Division ...	3
Dacca and Chittagong Divisions ...	7
Patna and Bhagulpore Divisions ...	6
Orissa Division ...	2
Total ...	40

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.



As a permanent memorial of the Jubilee, the Maharaja of Cashmere will have a bridge erected across the Tawi at Jammu, at a cost of several lakhs.

MESSRS. N. G. CHANDRAVARKAR, (Editor, *Indu Prakash*), and B. M. MALABARI (of the *Indian Spectator*), have been nominated fellows of the Bombay University.

A CORRESPONDENT in the *Statesman*, evidently himself a sufferer, makes a very practical and business-like statement of the systematic manner in which the claims of Police Inspectors are ignored in favor of European outsiders, who are appointed Assistant Superintendents, in direct contravention of an express ruling of the Department on the subject. These European Assistants are good for nothing except for ornament, their ignorance of the vernacular unfitting them for the work of supervision which they are supposed to perform. As to the promised appointment annually of one Deputy Magistrate from the Subordinate Police Service, the promise has been fulfilled in only a single case since 1882 when it was first made. Surely, this is just the way to spoil any Service. But the District and Assistant Superintendentships are a close preserve for highly connected Europeans who cannot win their way to a better service, by dint of merit, and they must therefore remain inviolate even before the prying scrutiny of the Finance Committee. We do not, however, complain so much against abuse of patronage or even extravagance, as against the injustice which is done to good and faithful officers, because they are natives and have no friends in high places.

WE have received a memorandum by Babu BEHARILAL GHOSE, editor of the *Karmik Darpan*, and *Utsavakarma*, on the necessity of establishing a Polytechnic Institution near Calcutta, and an appeal to the Government and the public for help in carrying out his object. No matter is receiving more earnest attention from the authorities as well as from the leaders of Indian society than that of technical education, and we hope that Babu BEHARILAL'S proposals, appearing, as they do, at an opportune moment, will receive the consideration which their importance deserves. The Babu seems, by natural taste as well as by training, to be entitled to speak on the subject. He has considerable practical experience as a mechanist, and comes before the public with good testimonials.

BOMBAY will celebrate the Jubilee in a style worthy of a rich commercial city. The Municipal Corporation have voted a lakh of Rupees, out of which Rs. 80,000 is destined for the proposed Technical College. The Ripon Fund which has attained to about two lakhs will be diverted to this object, and a handsome annual aid of Rs. 20,000 from Government is also graciously promised. We only hope the name of the righteous servant will be perpetuated with the august and gracious Mistress, in that connection. In Calcutta, the permanent memorial of the Queen's Jubilee has also been decided to take the same form. The proposal for a Technical College was made by the most influential persons, being moved by Maharaja Sri JOHNDRA MOHAN TAGORE. Dr. HUNTER in seconding the motion made a most excellent speech from which we take the following:

"I shall ask your attention for a moment to another aspect of her auspicious rule. During no other half century has the British Empire made so vast an industrial progress as in the fifty years whose jubilee we are now to celebrate. I say advisedly the British Empire. For I mean thereby not alone England and her Colonies, but also this great continent of India in which we live. During that period, India has entered the markets of the world in an entirely new character. She appears no longer as a retailer of luxuries, which only the rich could afford to buy; but as a wholesale producer of staples of the crops which feed, and of the fabrics which will yet clothe, other nations. The change means that fifty years ago India had practically the monopoly in the few articles which she sold; while now she has to encounter the keen competition of other countries. In 1837, India exported about ten millions sterling worth of luxuries for which she could generally get her own price. In 1887, India will export 90 millions worth of staples, but she will have to compete with the whole world, from California to China, in finding a market. This great industrial revolution has taken place in India during the reign of Victoria. It implies changes in the working life of the people which are felt, for evil or for good, in every homestead throughout this vast land. When therefore I read the words of the resolution that a Fund should be raised to commemorate her Majesty's reign in a suitable and permanent manner, I said to myself 'what manner is more suitable, or fraught

with such permanent benefits, as an effort to fit India for her new industrial place in the world?' England and India have conjointly at this moment a unique opportunity. For India has the cheapest labour in the world, and England has the cheapest capital. By this means the interests of England and India will be indissolubly bound together. In the old domestic industries, the Indian workman was unsurpassed. Those industries have now to give place to production on a great scale by machinery and steam power. England has sent her capital to India to help in this revolution; but Indian labour has not been able to keep pace with the changes required from it. The truth is that in Europe and America, the new industrial era has called into existence new methods of instructing the national labour and of rendering it more effective. These methods are known as technical education. India will obtain her commanding position in the industrial world only when she adopts similar methods. I shall therefore rejoice if part of the fund to be raised to commemorate the Jubilee of the Queen-Empress, be devoted to enable India to take her place in the new industrial world into which India has entered during the first fifty years of her Majesty's reign. I hail the circumstance that at this very juncture the need of technical education in India has been powerfully borne in the mind of her Majesty's representative in this land. I look upon this as a providential opportunity for directing a portion of the national wealth to a permanent means of national progress. India will rejoice in many ways that her beloved Sovereign has been spared to reign during so many glorious years. Illuminations, statues, memorials, buildings for feeding of poor, are each and all fitting expressions of the glad heart of the people. But to enable India to worthily fill the new place which she has won in the industrial world during Queen Victoria's reign, seems to my mind one of the noblest purposes to which the thanks-offering of a grateful nation can be devoted; for the best illumination will splutter out into darkness, and time will lay its defacing finger on the marble and the bronze. But the education of the people has within itself an inherent life which can never perish, and which will throw out new and ampler growths from generation to generation. (Loud applause.)"

THE following is going the round of the papers:—

"Professor Humphry, of Cambridge, has prepared a series of tables which contain some interesting information about centenarians. Of 52 persons whom he mentions, at least 11—2 males and 9 females—actually attained the age of 100. Others attained very nearly to the 100 years. Only one of the persons reached 108 years, while one died at the alleged age of 106. Of the 52 persons, 36 were women and 16 men. Professor Humphry tells us that the comparative immunity of women from the exposures and risks to which men are subjected, and the greater temperance in eating and drinking exhibited by women, are the chief points in determining their higher chances of longevity. Out of the 36 women 26 had been married, and 11 had borne large families. Of the 26 who had been wives eight had married before they were twenty—one at sixteen and two at seventeen years of age. Twelve of the 52 centenarians were discovered to have been the eldest children of their parents. This fact, adds Dr. Humphry, does not agree with popular notions that first children inherit a feebleness of constitution, nor with the opinion of racing stables, which is decidedly against the idea that 'firstlings' are to be depended on for good performances on the course. The centenarians generally regarded were of spare build. Gout and rheumatism were, as a rule, absent. 'It seems,' says Professor Humphry, 'that the frame which is destined for great age needs no such prophylactics, and engenders none of the peccant humours for which the finger-joints (as in gout) may find a vent.' Of the 52 aged people 24 only had no teeth; the average number of teeth remaining being four or five. Long hours of sleep were notable among these old people, the period of repose averaging nine hours; while out-of-door exercise in plenty and early rising are to be noted among the factors of a prolonged life. One of the centenarians 'drank to excess on festive occasions'; another was a 'free beer-drinker' and 'drank like a fish during his whole life.' Twelve had been total abstainers for life or nearly so, and most of all were 'small meat-eaters.'"

There is great scepticism on the subject of centenarianism among certain writers. The late Mr. THOMAS, after a patient inquiry, came to the conclusion that the reported cases could not generally be verified. Professor HUMPHRY has arrived at a more hopeful result. Still his figures are not quite satisfactory. In our country, though scarcely regarded as a very salubrious one, centenarians comparatively abound. In some parts of Bundelkhand enjoying a dry soil and atmosphere, the people are generally free from illness and attain to great age, many to the length of a hundred years and more. In other parts, many families are long-lived, and in these centenarians are not rare. Bengal was no exception till of late years. Our Pandits especially possessed tenacious vitality. For one case, we may mention that the father and grandfather of the late TARA NATH VACHASPATI, the grammarian, lived each many years beyond a century. In the highlands of and about Sylhet, there are several long-lived families in which centenarianism has been common enough.

With regard to the habits of life leading to longevity, the Professor's observations yield little fruit. Without inquiry, we are not safe in assuming that the conditions favorable to health must be favorable to length of days. These inquiries bring up confounding cases of long-lived sots. The Professor's alcoholic fishes remind one of Lord MARCHMONT'S famous recipe "Never mix your wines," over which LEIGH HUNT was so contemptuously merry.

SERGEANT WILLIAM BALLANTINE, who will be remembered in India as the counsel of the deposed Guikwar, the late MULHAR RAO, is dead.

THERE will be a Poultry Show, at Poona, early next month.

At Bombay, they suggest a coin of the value of Rs. 2-8, our half-crown, as a Jubilee commemoration.

It is snowing hard at Darjeeling. On the 20th the snow was three feet at Jor bungalow.

THE Secretary of State has ruled that the Judges of the Punjab Chief Court, will, like the Judges of the other High Courts, be allowed privilege leave when it can be granted without extra cost, namely, the appointment of acting Judges.

THE North-Western Railway has arranged to through-book passengers, parcels and goods between England and India, *via* Kurrachee.

At the public meeting, held at the Town Hall, the following Resolutions were adopted:—

1. Proposed by the Nawab Bahadur of Moorshedabad, seconded by His Highness the Maharajah of Cooch Behar—

That the Fiftieth Anniversary of Her Gracious Majesty's most beneficent reign be celebrated by all classes and sections of the community in a manner worthy of the occasion, and that His Excellency the Viceroy be asked to sanction a second holiday on the 17th February.

2. Proposed by His Highness the Maharajah of Cooch Behar, seconded by the Hon'ble D. Cruickshank—

That His Excellency the Viceroy be solicited to fix an hour on the afternoon of the 16th February to receive loyal Addresses from deputations of Public Bodies and Associations congratulating the Queen-Empress on the attainment of the 50th year of Her most prosperous reign.

3. Proposed by the Hon'ble H. L. Harrison, seconded by Prince Ferozh Shah—

That the Town of Calcutta be illuminated and arrangements made for a display of fireworks, and that the Governments of India and Bengal, the Corporation, and other public bodies, and the residents of the city be invited to co-operate, by illuminating the premises under their charge or in which they reside, and that the Shipping in the Port be also invited to join in the illumination.

4. Proposed by Maharajah Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore, K.C.S.I., seconded by the Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.S.I., C.I.E.—

That a Jubilee Fund be raised for commemorating this auspicious occasion in a suitable and permanent manner.

5. Proposed by Rajah Rajendro Narain Deb, seconded by Mr. H. Pratt—

That a General Committee for the above purposes be appointed, to consist of the following noblemen and gentlemen, with power to add to their number:

(Here names of members which are omitted.)

Honorary Secretaries—Hon'ble Peary Mohun Mookerjee; Mr. S. J. E. Clarke.

6. Proposed by Nawab Abdool Luteef, Khan Bahadur, C.I.E., seconded by Babu Durga Churn Law, C.I.E.—

That the General Committee be asked to select from their number an Executive Committee to consider and arrange for a permanent Memorial on behalf of the Province of Bengal.

7. Proposed by J. E. D. Ezra, Esq., seconded by Kumar Boycunto Nath De—

That for the local celebration a separate Executive Committee of the following gentlemen be appointed:—

Hon'ble H. L. Harrison, *President*.

Nawab Abdool Luteef, Khan Bahadur, C.I.E.; Mr. Amir Ali; Hon'able D. Cruickshank; Mr. W. Duff Bruce; Hon'ble Kally Nath Mitter; Mr. R. D. Mehta; Hon'ble Peary Mohan Mookerjee; Mr. W. J. Simmons, Baba Surendra Nath Banerjee; Colonel S. T. Trevor; Mr. A. H. Wallis; Mr. A. Wilson.

Mr. R. Turnbull, *Honorary Secretary*; Babu Q. C. Dutt, *Honorary Treasurer*; with power to add to their number.

8. Proposed by the Revd. S. B. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Manockjee Rustumjee—

That His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor be asked to submit a copy of these Resolutions to His Excellency the Viceroy.

WE have much pleasure in translating the following from our contemporary of the neighbouring French settlement:—

Pondichery was honoured by the visit of S. A. Rama-Verma, the premier prince of Travancore on the Christmas Eve. The prince accompanied by the English Consul Col. FISCHER, paid a visit to the Governor, who received him with perfect cordiality. All the honours due to his rank were paid to the prince during his stay at the place, and he expressed his satisfaction at the courtesy shown to him. Among other objects of curiosity, he saw the Pier, the statue of Dupleix, the bridge of the Arianconform, the artesian well which supplies nearly

400 litres of water in a minute, and the garden of acclimatation. He seemed well pleased with his visit and made a favourable impression on those who saw and conversed with him.

AFTER all, Sir LEPEL GRIFFIN does not succeed to the Panjab portfolio, Mr. J. B. LYALL, Resident in Mysore, being selected to succeed Sir CHARLES FITCHISON. Mr. LYALL made his mark as Financial Commissioner in the Panjab, and his promotion now is the reward of the services done by him in that office. In the event of Sir CHARLES BERNARD taking the leave which he badly requires, Sir LEPEL will, it is said, come in for his turn.

A CORRESPONDENT, signing "A Native," in the *Indian Daily News* and protesting that he is a ratepayer of a suburban Municipality, lustily advocates for return to official Municipal Chairmanship. Has he, we ask, duly paid his rates to the non-official chairman? Verily, there are more DHIRENDRA PALS about than one was aware of.

## Editorial Notes.

THERE is active fighting going on in Burma. The Mounted Infantry have gained some signal successes, one of the leaders of the "dacoits" being killed, and others of minor position. But we have had no end of such reports in the past, and may well therefore be excused if we confess to an impatience of following the sickening details day after day. All the same we zealously pray for the speedy pacification of the country, alike in the interests of the Government, and of the native populations of both Indias.

THE resignation of Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL has thrown the Ministry into a confusion which, from the latest telegrams, scarcely seems to have passed away. The greatest uncertainty prevails, and the position of Lord SALISBURY is scarcely enviable at the present time. To crown his difficulties, Lord IDDESLEIGH has gone the way of the majority, leaving another gap not easy to be filled. In the meantime, the European situation is far from reassuring. The Bulgarian succession threatens to prove the very apple of discord, while the military preparations of Germany and France keep the public mind as well as the money market, in a state of chronic uneasiness. The feeling in Russia is one of increasing dissatisfaction towards England, Austria, and other powers, suspected of in the least countenancing Bulgarian pretensions as against the supremacy of Russia in that state. The state of things nearer home, is most unsatisfactory in Ireland. Evictions of tenants on a large scale are being made at the point of the bayonet, and the greatest distress prevails. It is well altogether that the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee at home does not take place till after sometime, by which it is to be hoped there might be quieter times restored in the United Kingdom.

THE German Reichstag has met with the fate with which Prince BISMARCK had threatened it as the penalty of refusal to pass the Army Estimates Bill. It has been dissolved. It will be remembered the Bill had been commended to its acceptance with the whole weight of both the Prince and Count MOLTKE'S counsels. The terrors of dissolution to the Chamber itself as well as of a certain war with France as the consequence of its refusal, were in vain held forth before the Representative Assembly. BISMARCK further added that the increase was essential in the very interests of peace, while the ostentatious war preparations in France gave point to his utterances. But nothing availed to make adequate impression on the Reichstag. The reply it has given will take most people by surprise, but it does not, we fancy, indicate the waning popularity of the Chancellor or the Commander-in-Chief, or even confidence in the continued maintenance of peace. For all that, we do not anticipate war. Whatever the court party in Russia may pretend, France will do her honourable best to avoid a European war: her preparations are defensive only. The attitude of the German Chamber also makes for peace. The vote, as we take it, is simply a confession of the national inability to bear any further burdens.

JUBILEE meetings, we mean meetings to concert measures for the coming celebration, are being held in all places, and there is quite a rivalry

amongst our cities and towns to outvie each other in their loyal demonstrations. There will be, of course, illuminations and other entertainments everywhere, but it would be a great thing if a portion of the subscriptions raised for the purpose were sent to the Calcutta Committee to aggrandise the fund intended for the Technical College. Let the example of Bombay have some effect on the people of this province. If the present opportunity for fairly floating the scheme of technical education fails, it will be long before such another opportunity returns.

THE Convocation of the Calcutta University was enlivened by the presentation, amidst ringing cheers, of two Bengali lady graduates from the Bethune School, and by Lord DUFFERIN the Chancellor's shaking hands with them. The first lady graduates were, Beebee GANGULI (née KADUMBINI) and Kumari CHANDRAMUKHI, on whose presentation a similar scene took place at the Senate House.

THE DIOGENES of Allahabad is luckier than the ancient philosopher of that ilk. In a lengthy article of many columns reviewing the evidence recorded by the Public Service Commission, the *Pioneer* has found at east one witness after its heart. That rare man is no other than Syed MAHMOOD of Alyghur. We wonder why Mr. BECK of the Alyghur College, who never omits an opportunity of venting his spleen against Bengalis, is denied a similar distinction. Is the Beck too transparent? Possibly it is owing to Mr. BECK's nationality. The Allahabad journal wants "genuine" native evidence to pit against what in its eyes are the spurious pretensions of other natives—Baboos in particular, Bengali and extra-Bengali. Pity, from the number of witnesses examined, our contemporary can find only one to keep it in countenance. Since, however, the composition of the voluminous leader, another of its *protégés*, DHIRENDRANATH PAL, has tendered similar evidence, and we may look for another leader of similar length and logic. DHIRENDRA PAL may be an embryo great man in the *Pioneer's* sight, but woe to our contemporary if its discernment and judgment of things generally be measured by the proof of those virtues given in the estimate of this prodigy—this unmatriculated manager of his father's estate!

- The young scapegrace is simply keeping up the family traditions. His worthy sire was a ministerial officer attached to a moffasil magistracy, who rose to the Subordinate Executive Service from the accident of his connection with a Covenanted Lothario burdened with the wife of another gentleman.

AMONG the ravages of the late earthquake months in Cashmere, not the least mournful was the damage done to the monument of the Faith of Mahammad—the great Jumma Masjid. No older than AURUNGZEBE who built it, it was in fine preservation and was an interesting specimen of the late Mogul art—a degeneration of the substantial Pathan architecture. It is lucky that the whole is not a wreck, or we would have been left simply to mourn the loss and clear the *debris* if possible. What hope could have been harboured of restoring an enormous pile in a country without the conveniences of science? Nature herself has in our day been too exhausted for such an end. There were hundreds of pillars of wood supporting the roof—wood that is not to be had (practically speaking) for either love or money. Yet these pillars themselves were a curiosity to preverse. They were massive whole timbers of the best grain and soundest seasoning—some of the columns being 40 or more cubits long. Luckily, we believe, they will be recovered, most of them, and the damage to the mosque may be repaired. It is simply a question of expense, and not extravagantly high expense. The Maharaja is alive to the importance of preserving such an important public building as well as historic relic. He ordered Rs. 5,000 for repairs. Considering the demands on his exchequer, he could scarcely be expected to give more. But much more was needed. Help came from an unexpected quarter, however. From the far East of East Bengal, the great millionaire of Dacca, Nawab ABDUL GUNNY Bahadoor sent Rs. 11,000 for restoring the historic Cathedral of his Faith in Cashmere. The work of repair has, we hear, been taken up in right earnest. More money, it is believed, will be needed to complete it. We are glad to hear that, during the Dacca Nawabs' late visit to the city, on the occasion of the entertainment they gave to the Mahomedans here, the old Reis was good enough to express his readiness to send more money if more be wanted. This is like a liberal millionaire and an old Mussulman.

PRIVATE advices from Pondicherry speak of the ferment there in consequence of the new taxes. In fact, there is great dissatisfaction throughout French India. The tradesmen were so moved as to take the extreme step of closing their shops. There is every probability, we are told, of the taxes being modified. The matter is before the *Conseil General*.

A NEW weekly paper—the *Bangkok Times*—is announced from the capital of Siam, under the editorship of Mr. T. WILLIAMESE. Is the gentleman the same who lately figured in Madras, whence he sowed broadcast the proposals for a League which, with its organ in the press, was to blow up the effete administrations of British India? If so, he has left at least his advertisements unpaid. He will doubtless be careful not to start as a radical reformer in his new domicile.

If Mr. WILLIAMESE succeed better in Siam than he did in Madras, the *Bangkok Times* will not, we believe, be the first English publication in the country. The late King had a tolerable knowledge of English and was fond of literary and scientific pursuits. In Sir JOHN BOWRING's illustrated volumes on Siam, is a facsimile of a letter in English from the first King to Sir JOHN. Under the King's patronage, if we remember rightly, an English almanac and a *Gazette*, too, we believe, were issued to which both His Majesty himself contributed.

THE *Indian Spectator* has an interesting friend, a student of universal toxicology, sociological as well as physiological, who sends him recipes on all the ills that flesh and spirit are heir to. Thus he follows up a remedy against compulsory widowhood with a cure for snake bites. The following extract, given by him from G. A. FAIRBANKS' South African Travels Through the Kalahari Desert towards Lake N'Gami (London, 1886), is a distinct contribution to the inquiry into the latter subject:—

(See pages 366, and 367) 'Three of the oxen were bitten by snakes; one of the Bushmen undertook to cure them, and taking a knife made one or two incisions round the place where the bite was, which was easily seen by the swelling, and rubbed in a powder, which he said was made from the dried poison-sacs of another snake. In a few hours the swelling entirely subsided, and the oxen were as well as their starved state allowed them to be. I expressed some doubt whether this "cure" would be efficacious in the case of a more deadly kind of snake, but the Bushman assured me that it would, and that he was not afraid of being bitten by any snake in the country so long as he had the poison-sac of another snake to use as an antidote. The very next day I had the opportunity of putting him to the test. While walking ahead of the wagons I saw a full grown capell, or spung-slange, lying under a bank, and calling the Bushman said—"catch that snake alive. You are not afraid of it, are you?" "No Sir," he replied, "I am not afraid, and will catch it for a roll of tobacco." Not wishing to be accessory to his death, I refused to bribe him, and went to get the driver's whip to kill the snake with. I had scarcely returned when he gave it a kick with his naked foot, and the horrible reptile bit him. Coolly taking out some dried poison sacs, he reduced them to a powder, pricked his foot near the puncture with his knife and rubbed the virus powder in just as he had done with the cattle. In the meantime I had put a stop to the snake biting any more by a blow from the whip stick, and the Bushman extracting the fangs drank a drop of the poison from the virus sac, and soon fell in a stupor, which lasted some hours. At first the swelling increased rapidly, but after a time it began to subside and next morning he inoculated himself *again*. That night the swelling disappeared, and in four days he was as well as ever.'

The matter is no doubt worth inquiring. We do not hold savages in either awe or reverence, as some are inclined to do. But we think it not unlikely that they should have some secrets about the virtues of plants which we would be the better for knowing. It seems probable that the Mandans of North America, who have a wild religious festival in which serpents play the principal part, should have some antidotes against serpent-bite. For the rest, the principle of the alleged cure possessed by the Bushmen is Homœopathic—a principle recognised by HIPPOCRATES as well as by the ancient Hindu philosophers. A well-known Sanskrit dictum is—*Poison is cure for poison*.

SIR RIVERS THOMPSON is not unmindful of his own. Of the sixty millions of Bengal, only two have been honoured this New Year's Day, two of his *Amlah*—Head Assistant KOILAS CHUNDER MOOKERJEE and Head-Head Assistant MACAULAY. We do not know how far Moonshé MACAULAY likes the idea of being in the same boat with Registrar MOOKERJEE—he certainly would not go to Heaven or to Tibet with a Baboo—but the L. G. is hardly to be blamed for failing to differentiate between the susceptibilities of different orders of servants. *Amlah* are *Amlah*, whatever their respective wages. The master looks with equal eye on all his "Baboos," be they Bengali or British. So the two are bracketed together for befitting small honors, with this necessary difference that the *chakraband* and *Surat* *Maharaja*

is made Ray Bahadoor, and the man of coat and hat is given the letters C. I. E., after his name. "Ray Bahadoor" is the Indian counterpart of "Companion of the I. Empire."

The Bengali has been an old servant of the state who has worked to the best of his powers. With respect to the Englishman, who is a comparatively young officer, whose promotion has been too rapid for any room for complaint on his part, the question is asked, What for? With our well-known zeal for our masters, we come with a prompt answer. Who does not know—has not DICKENS told the whole world with an emphasis and a circumstantiality not to be forgotten—that the great Circumlocution Office has for its appropriate motto—*Not to do it?* Has not Moonshiee MACAULAY Ray Bahadoor lately fulfilled the injunction to a *U?* He was to have gone on a perilous adventure and he did not stir out. What is the British Government worth if it did not pay its British-born servants a premium for not risking their necks? Talk of the Bureaucracy in India—of the Mutual Admiration Societies of Simla and Calcutta, Darjeeling and Alipore, of Ooty and Madras, and so forth! Why, we have so many family parties. Motherfamilias restrains her pet lads from rash sports and diverts them from scrapes with lollipops.

THE strong man has at last fallen. The Chairman of Baranagar has resigned. There is no merit in the act inasmuch as it was a forced measure. For months he had maintained an unequal war, not without mistakes but with unshaken resolution and no ordinary pluck. Gradually, however, his strength waned and that of the enemy waxed. With all his ability he did not possess the priceless faculty for peace. At last he found himself almost alone, deserted by his very creatures in the board, apparently by all except the one trusted and trusty lieutenant who falls with him, and against whom, as a recent settler, the feeling is more bitter and unreasonable. Into the merits of a feud of this kind, kept up and confused by the criminations and recriminations of twenty months, it were profitless to enter, even if human ingenuity, without holding a regular inquest, could unravel the tangled skein. Not to shrink from our responsibility, we may just offer our impression for what it may be worth. Faults there have been, undoubtedly, but they have been chiefly those of manner and form, not of inherent substance. The chief failing has been in temper and tact, and in the choice of subordinate agency. On the other hand, the working capacity of the man and his zeal are conceded by his very enemies. More money has been raised and more improvements effected than in any previous *regime*. Leaving out the rare ability and accomplishments of the Chairman who has just resigned, the town should esteem itself lucky indeed if it got in his successor his honesty and activity.

ALL doubts as to the growing poverty of the country ought to be dispelled by the character of the response which, from time to time, is made by the people at large to appeals for subscriptions towards the commemoration of some of the people's idols. No Viceroy of India was ever held in greater love and esteem than Lord RIPON—no Indian patriot more justly appreciated than HURRIS CHUNDER—the popularity of Justice DWYRKA NATH MITTER could not be wider than it was. Yet see the feeble response made to the summonses made from time to time to honor their memory! And a crowning proof of the truth of our national poverty is likely to be afforded in connection with the approaching Jubilee. There is no lack of fervent loyalty in the heart of the people. The Jubilee Funds will have suitable contributions from comparatively wealthier individuals, but the nation's contributions will be simply nowhere. As to the wealthy again, they are in far from easy circumstances, from one thing or another. Look now, how they mean to honor the Jubilee in the United Kingdom, at any rate in England and Scotland. There, all over the country, while the more fortunate will give their thousands and tens of thousands for permanent memorials in their native towns, in the shape of literary, scientific or other

#### NOTICE.

Gentlemen who desire to tender evidence on the subjects now under the consideration of the Public Service Commission, are requested to send their names and addresses to the undersigned at their earliest convenience.

(Sd.) COLMAN MACAULAY,

Offg. Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

institutions, for their common benefit and advancement, the people in general will testify their loyalty in their own, though humbler, way. Look on this picture and on that!

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 1887.

### THE TOWN HALL MEETING.

THE meeting of the citizens of Calcutta and its suburbs at the Town Hall, for considering and deciding upon the best way for celebrating the Queen's Jubilee, was as much of a success as might have been expected, and no more. But for the strange auspices as well as the unfortunate management under which it was held, it would have been a grander demonstration, more worthy of the occasion. The spacious place was fairly full, though it would have been fuller, were it not for some snob or noodle's policy of restricting the admissions to those who came in carriages, till after the proceedings began. It would be very proper, we consider, to keep out mere boys, who, of late, have grown to be more than the competitors of their elders and have swamped and disturbed several public meetings where they had no business at all. But the least suspicion of rudeness was quite out of place, particularly on such an auspicious occasion, in regard to the admission of grown up lieges of Her Majesty, and, as the organ of not the Reis only but also of the humbler classes, we must express our regret that any cause should have occurred for dissatisfaction in any quarter. The assembly was, nonetheless, decently numerous, and representative, and influential, and it tried to be as lively as practicable under the circumstances. As head of the province, where the ceremony took place, Sir RIVERS THOMPSON conceived that he had a right to govern it, and so he came down from his throne to take the chair, and take it he did, being, on a loyal sheriff's motion, voted to it. And it was, as Mr. WILSON said, no doubt, a most welcome duty, on the eve of his departure after his five years' rule over Bengal, to fall to Sir RIVERS THOMPSON's lot.

The Lieutenant-Governor opened the proceedings with a speech in which, without anticipating the subsequent speakers, he gave the meeting a sketch of the programme. Of the illuminations which must form the most prominent feature of the festivities, Government, said he, has undertaken the duty with respect to its public buildings, monuments and statues, and placed the charge of the arrangements in the competent hands of Colonel TREVOR. It remained for the Corporation and citizens and residents of Calcutta to do their portion which Sir RIVERS THOMPSON had no doubt would be performed by them with enthusiastic loyalty. Fireworks, according to the general wish, would also form a part of the festivities towards the success of which the co-operation of the citizens was confidently looked for. A General Committee for the purpose of raising subscriptions to defray the cost of the exhibition was suggested, while to add to the effectiveness of the display and of the march-past before the Viceroy, it was his idea that the troops in the garrison, and the mercantile marine should be allowed to take part. Sir RIVERS did not forget any classes, and seemed anxious that the occasion might be made a universal festival to all. He suggested that it might be a red-letter to the school-boys to whom the Belvedere and the Zoo should be

thrown open, and had kindly recollections of the poorer sections of the community to whom the fireworks on the spacious *maidan* would afford an opportunity of taking part in the loyal demonstrations. The public Associations of Calcutta might also on such an occasion approach the representative of Her Majesty with loyal addresses, and receive from the Viceroy's lips assurances of Her Majesty's great interest in their welfare.

Elsewhere will be found the Resolutions passed at the meeting; the speeches delivered were generally above the average, the Orientals naturally shining in the expression of loyal attachment. The speeches of Dr. HUNTER, Mr. HARRISON and Nawab ABDOL LUTEEF appear to have been the best. As reported, the address of the last-named was exceptionally excellent. Notwithstanding the enormous disadvantage of the mover of the 6th Resolution, the representative of Islam contributed, with striking eloquence, something distinctly new on the subject, not only from the point of view of his co-religionists but also appealing to the consciousness of the entire subject populations of the Empire of VICTORIA. Baboo SURENDRA NATH BANNERJEE'S speech has not been reported, but those who heard say it was the speech of the evening. If he is wise, he will be content with that tradition. The Hon. Babu PEARY MOMUN MOOKERJEE, too, spoke very well, as also Maharaja Sir JOLINDRA MOHUN TAGORE. In fact, the speeches, not excepting that of the Chairman, were generally praiseworthy efforts. More could scarcely be expected under the cold shade of the gubernatorial chair. With respect to the Lieutenant-Governor's speech, wherein he delivered an *éloge* upon the merits of British Rule, we cannot refrain from making one remark. His Honor said:—

"I take it that no one here will venture to assert that it was an evil hour for either India or England when the genius of Clive turned a trading company into a political power and inaugurated a hundred years of continuing progress (applause). The later years of the past century and the first 30 years of the present, formed a period when partly against foreign foes, and partly against internal dissension, the authority of England was being established in scattered provinces, and the period was necessarily one of struggle and contention. What we now witness is a consolidated Empire in itself, which stretches from Victoria Point, the south-west cape in the Mergui Archipelago, to the banks watered by the river Indus, and perhaps something beyond it (applause). In all this wide territorial dominion, with its differing creeds and nations and tribes and tongues, whatever the merits or defects of our administration may have been, we may claim at least, with pride and with justice, that, under God's providence, we have been the means of extending to the peoples of this continent the *immensa magnas* *Romane* *factis* which has brought in its train civilization and culture, education and order, and if I may be allowed to say it, the first beginnings of a purer faith in a higher morality."

What shall we say of Sir RIVERS'S wisdom or good taste in obtruding his Christianity on such an occasion! Nobody mistook what the Lieutenant-Governor meant by his allusion to "the purer faith," but was an assembly of all creeds, of Hindus, Mahomedans, Jains, and Parsis, the place of all others whereat to introduce debateable matter like religion, specially on an occasion when they had all come together to honor their sovereign whom they revere, for, above all things, her policy of religious neutrality? It was, to say the least, playing a dangerous game. Suppose some independent politician, or for that matter, some one amongst the non-Christian auditory, as sincere as sensitive, had resented the remark, what a *contretemps* would have been created! The gratuitous impugnment of the purity of other religions than the Lieutenant-Governor's own, has all the appearance of a deliberate affront on the nation, and we can only charitably hope Sir RIVERS did not know how far he was tempting the patience and sensibilities of the bulk of his audience.

Want of space compels us to stop, but we shall return to the subject.

#### THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION:

THE evidence already before the Public Service Commission, is, at any rate, conclusive on one important point, *viz.*, that the higher appointments should be more largely given to natives. It is quite gratuitous for the *Pioneer* to pretend that anybody ever dreamt of discarding the European element in the higher executive control of affairs. That is neither here nor there. All that is aimed at is that natives should have more fair play than they get, and it is satisfactory that the evidence is overwhelming in this direction. Whatever the diversity in the evidence on other points,—and such diversity was only to be expected from the diverse classes and professions of the witnesses,—there is practical unanimity on this. So far, therefore, as this result has been attained, it is a triumphant vindication of the complaint so long urged by the native press that the existing Public Service rules had failed to give satisfaction to the people. If one fact must now be more clear than another, it is this that in the opinion of those who have been deemed by Government competent, or have themselves offered, to give evidence before the Commission, there exists considerable dissatisfaction and discontent in the country which is alone removeable by a more liberal amendment of the Service system.

The evidence is divergent chiefly on matters of detail. Some witnesses would retain the Statutory definition of "Native," while others would widen it, so as to include subjects of Feudatory States, and all Europeans and Eurasians, whether domiciled in India or not. The Statutory Civil Service, though disapproved almost with one voice, is disapproved for different reasons. The University-men object that they have not had fair play, until of late, while, on the other hand, there are some who maintain that this service has not fulfilled the purposes of its founders as a means of giving a career to members of decaying noble families. Some would recruit this service by competition, pure and simple, followed by residence and training in England, while, according to others, nomination should be combined with competition, while a third class of witnesses would rest it on nomination alone. There is the widest possible divergence of opinion with regard to the optional or compulsory residence in England after selection, whether by competition, or nomination, or both in combination. With regard to the Covenanted Civil Service, only a small number of the witnesses, and those members of that service themselves, would leave the present system intact. Preponderant evidence is, however, obtained in favor of its radical amendment. That, under the present system of recruiting this service, natives of this country are placed at a great disadvantage, is deposed to by more than one European Civil Servant of the North-West. It affords us great pleasure, indeed, to read the evidence of Mr. Justice OLDFIELD of Allahabad, a Senior Civilian, and of Mr. HARRINGTON, C. S. They unhesitatingly recommend those very changes in the Civil Service system which would be most acceptable to the natives. Mr. HARRINGTON would have the examination held simultaneously in England and in India, and is also strongly in favor of increasing the age. It is not often, we have the pleasant privilege to agree with Mr. ROWE, of the Bengal Education Service, but on the present



occasion, Mr. Rowe seems to have risen above those politics with which he is usually credited. The Professor of English Classics in the Presidency College has spoken in no uncertain sound. He would raise the age to 23 for English and native candidates alike, place Asiatic classics on the same level with Greek and Latin in respect of marks, and have the examination held simultaneously in England and in India, giving half the appointments to natives, on the results of the two examinations. Mr. WHITE, C.S., Director of Public Instruction, North West and Oude, does not, indeed, go very far, but he is clearly of opinion that more careers should be found for natives, leaving it to the Government to settle whether this should be done by a reform of the Statutory Civil Service, or the Covenanted Service.

Opinion amongst the native witnesses, barring exceptions here and there, as notably that of Judge MAHMOOD of Alyghur and those of nonentities like DHIRENDRA PAL, is, of course, pretty unanimous in demanding a radical reform of the Covenanted Civil Service examination. If the Statutory Civil Service is disapproved by them, it is because of its inadequacy as a means of gratifying native ambition. The Statutory Civil Service does not afford the adequate number of appointments. The status of those appointed to it, is inferior to that of the members of the Covenanted Civil Service. The pay also is inferior. The mode of recruitment is, again, generally condemned as not resulting in the selection of the best talent in the country, what is essential being that the incumbents, though trained in India, and owing nothing to residence in England, should still be able to hold their own with any average member of the Covenanted Civil Service, and thus to enforce their claims to equal consideration at the hands of Government. That Indian Universities are well able to turn out such *matériel*, and have, as a matter of fact, done so, is a fact as clear to us as it must be to those who have experience on the subject like ourselves, and if, notwithstanding this, the weight of evidence both as tendered by European witnesses and natives is in favor of an optional or compulsory residence in England, we can only express our regret at it. One witness, the Deputy Commissioner of Jullunder, unconsciously disclosed the true secret of why it is so widely believed that English residence is deemed more or less as a *sine qua non* of eligibility. It, he said, alters native ways and manners. In this candid statement, we have opened to us the secret of the whole thing. A native of India must be denationalized that he may better govern the nation. Now we must confess our inability to realize the force of such reasoning. On the contrary, we have always strongly held that to efficiently serve the country, even European officers should come more and more to acquire Indian ways and manners, and that their success has always been in proportion to their sympathies with Indian feelings and knowledge of Indian facts. In brief, we could never persuade ourselves to believe that English residence was such an indispensable qualification on the part of native officers as seems to be so generally held by Europeans and even by not a few natives. But that is not the purpose of our present discussion. The brief and incomplete analysis of the evidence so far given amounts, as we have said, to a most triumphant case for native claims upon the foreign rulers of their country. There could be no uncertainty any longer as to the discontent which present arrangements for filling the administrative offices in the Empire

have provoked. No one questions the absolute necessity of placing the supreme control of executive affairs in the hands of European officials, but, short of that, the native element requires to be introduced far more largely than is possible under the prevailing systems. Indeed, the necessity of some action in this direction must have already been realized by the Government of India themselves. That is manifest from the very appointment of the Commission and the express words contained in the Resolution appointing that Commission, as well as from later Viceregal utterances. The question is as to the extent and mode of that action. The facts which have so far been collected by the Commission, are, to us, altogether very satisfactory, as placing beyond doubt or cavil, the justice of the cause which the native press has persistently had at heart.

Any review of the evidence, however brief, would be incomplete which contained no reference to the valuable statements delivered by Mr. TUPP, and Justice STRAIGHT at Allahabad, and by Babus DURGAGATI BANERJEE, RAJENDRANATH MITTER, DEBENDRANATH GHOSE, and other Bengal witnesses at Calcutta, but we will recur to the subject soon. Baboo DURGAGATI's evidence is worthy of his ability and experience.

#### A BRACE OF WESTERN PANDITS.

The Sanskritists of Europe and America may be said to form a distinct fraternity, a family, as it were, having the same pursuits and same aspirations. Unfortunately, all is not love and peace that reigns within it, quietly, patiently ploughing the obstinate field of a forgotten tongue, apart from the restless activity of Western life. Jealousies and revenges, unworthy of the wise, not unfrequently break forth, serving to remind the world that the Rishis are but men, only on a large scale, having, with their fair proportion of human foibles and frailties, little quarrels of their own. Amongst all who have labored in the field of Oriental literature, no name stands higher or brighter just now than that of Professor Max Muller. His scholarship is profound, his sympathies large; and, as a writer, no one has as yet been able to eclipse him in brilliancy. The natural consequence of all this is that there are many who cannot brook the fame he has earned by honest toil. It is true the brilliant *savant* has his shortcomings, as, indeed, who has not? The greatest writers are not always great. The sun himself must occasionally be hid in the clouds in order to enable us to admire his unrivalled effulgence. Of all Professor Max Muller's works, his "Sacred Books of the East" are, perhaps, the least satisfactory. These look more like a book selling speculation than the result of serious scholarly toil. His connection with some of the "Books" seems to be confined to the title-pages. For all that, however, his name only has ensured to those volumes more readers, much more indeed, than they could ever hope to find without such accompaniment, even though introduced with all the aids of extensive advertisement and puffing reviews. That there are now between Europe and America thousands of literary men capable of conversing, how superficially soever, on the hymns of the *Rig* and the doctrines of the *Gita*, without either confounding Indra and Yama and Varuna with the warriors of the Scandinavian Valhalla, or regarding the ancient Hindoos as polygamous wretches incapable of rising to a pure and exalted conception of the deity, is distinctly due, to a very great extent, to these very "Books" loosely regarded as of the great Muller, though owning no further connection with Professor Max Muller than that of a name. His latest publication, an English translation of the *Upanishads*, stands on a different footing, coming from his own pen. It is a valuable accession to the libraries of educated men desirous of making an acquaintance with the post-Vedic philosophy of the Hindus. Whatever the faults of execution, they have been

handled most roughly and, we may add, unjustly, by Professor Whitney, in a recent number of the *American Journal of Philology*. Written with all the vigor of which that distinguished American Orientalist is capable, and betraying all the marks of the minutest and the most elaborate care, Professor Whitney's paper has attracted considerable attention, even in regions outside the pale of Oriental scholarship. As is usually the case with productions of this nature—witness the recent onslaught in the *Quarterly Review* on Professor Gosse—its exceeding cleverness must be a bar to its success. The mark has been simply overshoot. The tone is such that nobody can expect Professor Max Muller to notice it for purposes of a reply. With Professor Max Muller enjoying a popularity vastly superior to that of his critic, what that means, in the estimation of others than specialists, is very plain.

The pretensions of Professor Whitney are simply intolerable. The authority of the Hindoo commentators has not the least weight with him. They are so many mischievous persons purposely or unconsciously misinterpreting their sacred literature, for securely founding their own peculiar beliefs. They are deceiving or self-deceived doctrinaires in search of authorities and precedents for convincing a sceptical audience. The absurdity of such a contention is simply obvious, though it may fail to strike persons of Professor Whitney's way of thinking. That men of profound erudition, intimately acquainted with the niceties of Sanskrit Grammar, and observing in their daily life the minutiae of all the rites and ceremonies professedly based on, what to them are, the revealed words of the Creator, should themselves be deceived in catching the sense of those words or of the earliest glosses on them, can be believed only by men thirsting after originality at the sacrifice of common sense. That they should again purposely misinterpret them for emphasising the sacred origin of their own dogmas, when necessity there was none for procuring proselytes to their own beliefs and when they stood the certain risk of being proclaimed as heretics by orthodox teachers in abundance, for misreading the word of God, is equally untenable. The distance, in point of time, of the writers of these glosses from the era of the first promulgation of the Vedic texts, is scarcely an argument of any weight, remembering that the Vedic religion was a living one, in its principal features, at the time the glosses were written. Then again the method proposed for correcting these interpreters of the most valuable treasure of their own ancestors—a treasure that was guarded with a jealousy that is almost unparalleled in the annals of human thought—is a most singular one. It is nothing less than the aid of the St. Petersburg Lexicon, or, to put it with scholarly grandiloquence, the aid of philology! Vast as have been the strides made by comparative philology within the last few years, many of its discoveries are but ingenious conjectures, and the resources of philology, when applied for interpreting a hymn of the *Rig Veda* or a lesson of any of the *Upanishads*, would be worse than useless. Take a common word for example, *guklīrara-dhara*, which, as every Hindu child knows, is frequently used as an adjectival substantive for *Ganeśa*, the eldest child of *Civa* and *Parvati*. The word in this sense is a compound consisting of *guklī*—white, *arara*—clothes, and *dhara*—wearer. *Dhara* might also mean *carrier*. The whole compound may, therefore, signify the bearer or carrier of white clothes, i. e. an Ass, which is employed by Hindu washermen for carrying their clothes when washed! One might easily suppose scholars of Professor Whitney's stamp building upon such materials a theory about the sacredness of the ass in the Hindu Scriptures! We have not, however, done yet with the word. It may also be regarded to be compounded of *guklī*+*arara*+*dhara* (or, stated grammatically, *guklī arara dhara* is *guklīrara*, the *ā* being in such cases changed into the short *a*; then *guklīrara*=*Ganeśa*+*rā*+*dhara* it *guklīrara*=*mukha*; then *guklīraram dhara* it *guklīrara dhara*=*śalā*, i. e., a cart.) A very good theory about the sacred character of the cat may be built upon the repetition of this word in connection with the dispeller of dangers, the lord of the creation, and numerous other epithets of a similar sense

following it wherever it occurs. Now, who is to be believed? Śāyana and Mahidhara who regard this word as standing for *Ganeśa*, or Professor Whitney who with the aid of the Petersburg Lexicon would explain it as meaning an ass or a cat? The answer is not difficult. Such then are the pretensions of what are called “linguistic or philological versions” of the *Vedas* and *Upanishads*! Such the danger of rejecting the authority of Śāyana and Mahidhara, because of their distance from the era of the poets of the *Vedas* and the post-Vedic glosses!

### THE ROUMI SAHEB: OR A GLIMPSE OF HYDERABAD.

THE Capital of the Deccan is now the object of melancholy interest to all eyes in India. In order to judge the shifting scenes of its political drama, some knowledge of its life is needed. What that is like, may be imagined from the following observations of a Syrian who found himself there in the time of the last Nizam.

The centre of interest in every Mahomedan metropolis, because the arena of intrigue, as the source of influence and power, is the Seraglio. The late Nizam Afzuluddaula's harem consisted of some thousands of women, of whom the majority are the concubines of his father. He himself had upwards of two thousand. He did not, of course, see many of them for years, or, at least, did not see more intimately than by sight. Certainly, he was not on speaking terms with most. The people of the Deccan, like many other peoples in the East or the West, are very superstitious, and set great store by charms, amulets and all the armamentaria for subduing the weak and commanding credulity to obedience. Jacob, an adventurer from Turkey, had set himself up as an expert in this exquisite branch of nonsense. Indeed, so violent is the thirst of these people for this kind of thing, and so simple their faith, that they thrust the character of augurs, and soothsayers, if not Prophet, upon people who make no such, or even repudiate such, pretensions. Poor Jacob himself was originally shy of the holy attributes, being if anything, a jeweller or goldsmith by profession. But the good Hyderabadies would not mind his protestations. As he came from all the distance of the seat of the Caliphs, with its weird associations, he must be a—somebody, one versed in talismans. So the Roumi Saheb, as Jacob was called, submitted.

How many of these women of the Nizam would repair to the Roumi Saheb for buying his good offices in paving her way to the favor of the Prince! What tricks he would perform for their satisfaction! What gibberish he would pronounce! What symbols undreamed of he would perpetrate! What conjugations in verbs unknown he would deal in—what blasphemies and ribald jests, what infamous abuses he would wring out in Armenian and Syriac, to wear round the neck or arm! How the sudden accession of good fortune of his customers would be sure to be attributed to the efficacy of his unknown characters in non-existent tongues and strange devices! In fact, the Roumi Saheb's prestige began thiswise. His Highness of an evening when passing by the apartments of one of these neglected Odalisques, happened, at her salaaming, to enquire of her health. Next morning, before Jacob had fairly left his bed, his door was crowded with messengers from the seraglio, and his place filled even with high ladies themselves in covered conveyances, all to seek for the sovran remedy for complaint in Harem Life in the East.

The *Parda*—female seclusion—is not so strict at Hyderabad as in other parts of India; according to Northern notions it may hardly be said to exist. The numerous female attendants of the Nizam and companions of the Begums, who compose the greater part of the Harem, live around the public courts and chowks and sit in the evening in their balconies or peep through their windows above the streets, without *burka* or other veil, much as the public women do in Machoobazar at Calcutta, as our narrator significantly said. They exchange looks, converse with passengers, and do worse tricks with them, throwing betel-nuts, nosegays and flowers and fruits and

handkerchiefs at them, sometimes pouring water, sometimes spitting, on them, as one of them did on Jacob. There is certainly nothing like this in Machoobazar or even Sonagachee, retired as the latter place is.

One day in the year, the Minister Sir Salar Jung makes his royal master a present of every eatable of every kind, vegetables, sweet-meats, animals, &c. The collection is vast as it is rare, and worthy of any exhibition. It is on this day that the Khawasins and other ladies and all the women hold a fair or market of these things, to which many males are admitted who are in favor with the Prince, and where the Nizam goes round in the character of buyer. Beebe, he asks one, what is the price of this-----? Two Rs. is the reply. Will you give it for one and a half? Begone you son of a dog! did your father ever buy-----? In this style of freedom to which the language of the Calcutta Chadneybazar and the language of fish women are purity itself, the purchase goes on, and there is endless laughing and amusement.

Afzuluddaula, like other children of Nature, was fond of wonders. Roumi Saheb took care to satisfy him to his heart's content. One of his common methods of interesting His Highness was to expatiate on the glory and importance of Turkey and its Sultan. The Nizam would enter into the subject with his usual intelligence. One day the Prince asked about the strength of the Turkish soldiers, and of the sharpness of their steel. Why, cried Roumi Saheb, an Ottoman private ought to cut down at a blow fifteen persons. *Masballab!* exclaimed the Prince. Of course, Roumi Saheb said, the English or the Russians were nothing before the Turks. The Prince was very glad to think that such prowess still remained in Islam. On another occasion he illustrated the depth of his geographical lore. How far is Roum? he asked. It is very, very far, my lord. "Is it near Delhi?" the Nizam innocently enquired. He could scarcely make up his mind as to what he heard of the public appearance of the Sultan. "Have you seen the Sultan?" he would ask. "Oh yes, your Highness." "Once in your life, perhaps?" "No, your Highness, many a time and oft." "Nonsense! How should you see so?" "Why, he often comes out and shows himself to his subjects." "No! no such thing! A great Prince cannot be seen by everybody." "Unless he come before his subjects, how should they know him and learn to love him and redress their complaints?" "But will such a great prince come out for the benefit of you people?" One day the Roumi Saheb, who like other servants of the Nizam chafed at His Highness' continual seclusion, in reply to such a question, said "Why, the Sultan of Roum is not a lady." This visibly annoyed him and he said "The Sultan was not a vulgar fellow to be going about." Like other native princes, he was fond of alchemy and medicines aphrodisiac and provocative of, and sustaining, lechery. He had like others dissipated his powers by excess from boyhood and he had too many more women than he knew what to do with them. As he could not make happy any great number, the sign of his greatest liking and passion for any one was to bite her nose or cheek or chest. After the fool's stone called philosopher's, he spent several lacs of Rupees.

To one *chemiagur* alone, Sabar Ali Sha of Surat, in six weeks, the Nizam gave 4 lacs of Rupees, but he made no gold, deferring the wonder from day to day. He purposed to flee from Hyderabad after making a Hundi of the sum. Salar Jung coming to know it through spies, got him arrested and imprisoned him in the castle outside Hyderabad, and got the money back. If Afzuluddaula had known it, he would not have taken the money but told Salar Jung not to disturb a Pir, impostor though he had proved. The man was still in prison when we heard this, having been sentenced for 4 years.

Roumi Saheb himself once deceived the Nizam by a *chemia* trick. He made gold into powder by means of a file, then blackened the dust by fusing the same with sulphur, and said, that the black lump or black dust was the *masala* for making gold. He directed it to be put over fire along with a quantity of quicksilver. The

quicksilver evaporated in due course and the gold alone remained. The Nizam took the gold with great delight and reverence and touched his eyes and temples and head with it, and gave three hundred gold mohurs to the successful alchemist Roumi Saheb.

One of the ladies of the Household had applied through her people to the Roumi Saheb for a medicine or charm. Somehow she became well and she asked the Nizam's permission to visit her benefactor the Roumi Saheb to thank him personally. The request was complied with and Rs. 1,000 was ordered her for her to distribute in charity from her quarters to the Roumi Saheb's. She proceeded throwing the Rupees about, and on reaching the Roumi Saheb's made over to him the balance in the purse, in which the Roumi Saheb afterwards counted Rs. 800 and odd.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

##### THE DEOBHOG LIBRARY.

SIR,—My attention has been drawn to a para which appeared in your issue of November 20, 1886 on the subject of a public Library recently opened in Deobhog, near Munshiganj.

I beg to assure you, Sir, that your apprehensions are entirely unfounded, as the credential herewith enclosed will very well make out.

As a matter of fact, the Guhos form only a small fraction of the managing committee. We gave to the Editor of the "East" newspaper such names as are known to him, (a large proportion of which, by the merest accident, happened to be Guhos) and wrote to him to say that they, *with others*, had undertaken to look after the Library. Most unfortunately for us, the words underlined were dropped altogether and the "East" alone is responsible for it.

Of the two Secretaries to the Library, one attends to the details of routine work and it is the business of the other to carry on correspondence. It is but natural, therefore, that the appeal for aid should be put forth under the signature of the latter.

I shall thank you more than I can tell if you will kindly set the matter right as early as possible and put in a word or two to help us. To you, Sir, more than to anybody else, we look up for sympathy and support and a line of recommendation from one, so deservedly occupying a foremost rank in the republic of letters, will ensure a large amount of success to our undertaking. I have &c.

ATUL CHANDRA GUHO,  
Secy. Deobhog Library.

(True Copy.)

The opening of a Library in Deobhog, station Munshiganj, has been very opportune. It is a public institution and, in no sense, a family concern. Its connection with gentlemen of respectability and proved character is a guarantee that the interests of all classes will be properly looked after. We shall be very glad to hear of its success.

(Sd.) Chandra Mohan Mukherjee,  
1st Munsiff of Munshiganj.

(Sd.) Rajoni Kanta Sen,

Head Clerk & Sheristadar, Sub-Divisional office, Munshiganj.

(Sd.) Bepin Behary Bose,

Head Clerk, Small Cause Court, Munshiganj.

(Sd.) Mahananda Dutta,

Sub-Inspector of Schools, Munshiganj.

(Sd.) Koylas Chandra Dutt,

Pleader, Munshiganj.

(Sd.) Thakur Das Chatterjee,

Sheristadar, Munsiff's Court, Munshiganj.

##### THE JAMALPORE SCHOOL.

SIR,—The present state of the Jamalpur H. C. E. School has drawn attention of the public at large here. Three classes are without teachers. The 5th teacher resigned of his own accord, the 6th teacher for not getting leave to appear himself in the ensuing F. A. Examination, though he had every right to get it. The 7th teacher was compelled to resign by the School Committee (on what grounds I do not know.) He could read, write and speak Urdu and Hindi—qualifications essentially needed in Behar Circle.

The classes without teachers are now managed by boys sent from 2nd class as monitors, though they murmur for the loss they undergo in being sent so.

We are very glad on the one hand to hear that the Secretary, Jamalpur H. C. E. School has separated the Keshubpur Infant Girl School from the main one, as there is no necessity of such a school, when there is already a good one, but on the other hand we are sorry for the Daulatpur Infant and Girl School—as there is no School either in Vaidyapara or in Farallypara.

It is our eager desire that the Secretary should not make himself odious to the public by coming to hot-haste conclusions, for he should remember that a very sacred duty is imposed upon him.

I remain &c.,

TRUTH,

Jamalpur, 18th January.



# ISSUES DRAWN UP BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION INDICATING THE GENERAL POINTS ON WHICH EVIDENCE WILL BE TAKEN.

## I.—STATUTORY CIVIL SERVICE.

1. Is the existing system of appointing natives as Statutory Civilians to posts reserved for the Covenanted Civil Service approved?
2. If it is not, what are the grounds of disapprobation?
3. Are the defects of the existing system (if any) susceptible of remedy—
  - (a) by an amendment of the Rules;
  - (b) by an amendment of the Statutory provisions in that behalf;
 or should those provisions be repealed?
4. If the provisions of the Statute 33 Vic., section 6 are not repealed nor substantially amended so as to take away the power conferred on the local administrations, should they be amended in respect of the description of persons on whose behalf such powers may be exercised or in respect of the sanction required for appointments made there-under?
5. If the Statutory Service is retained, should the selected candidates be required to proceed to England for training, or should they be encouraged to do so?

## II.—COVENANTED CIVIL SERVICE.

1. Is any dissatisfaction felt with the existing system of recruitment for the Covenanted Civil Service?
2. Should any, and if any what, change be made in that system?
3. Do natives of India labour under any, and if any what, disadvantages in competing for employment in this branch of the Service?
4. By what changes may those disadvantages be minimized or removed, e. g. :—
  - (a) by the establishment of scholarships and allowance of passage money to native candidates;
  - (b) by altering the limit of age;
  - (c) by adding to the subjects of examination, or by altering the maxima marks obtainable in certain subjects;
  - (d) by holding simultaneously examinations in England and in India?
5. If an examination is held in India,
  - (1). Should it be identical with that held in England?
  - (2). Should it be held at one or more centres in India?
 Should the candidates in England and in India compete with one another and be selected in order of merit, or should a certain number of appointments be apportioned for competition to the candidates at the respective examinations?
- (3). If such an apportionment is made, on what principle is it to be regulated?
- (4). Should there be an apportionment between the residents in the territories of the several administrations, respectively, or between the members of the principal religious sects?
6. If an examination is held in India, should the successful candidates be required, as a condition obligatory, to proceed to England to complete their training?
7. Are the young natives obtained under the existing system of the open competition in England the best as regards character and capacity who could be obtained under any system?

## III.—UNCOVENANTED SERVICE.

1. Should the Uncovenanted Service be recruited only from natives of India as described in Statute 33 Vic., Cap. 3, section 6, or from all natural-born subjects of Her Majesty?
2. Should the recruitment be by competition, or by nomination, or by both systems combined; and if by both combined, should one system be applied to all offices or classes of offices, or should the system be varied with the class of offices?
3. Whatever system be adopted, should the recruitment be made by the several administrations only from persons resident in the territories under such administrations, respectively, or with a preference for such residents?
4. If the existing Statutory Service is abolished, should the proportion of offices assigned to that service be allotted to the Uncovenanted Service?

## VI.—PAY AND FURLOUGH RULES.

1. Should any distinction be made in the salaries attached to posts reserved for the Covenanted Civil Service according as the posts are held by members of that branch of the Service, or by members of the Statutory or Uncovenanted branches?
2. If such distinction should be made, on what principle should it be regulated?
3. Should any distinction be made in the Furlough Rules applicable to the Statutory and Uncovenanted branches of the Service according to the nationality of the officer, or any other, and on what ground?
4. Are the privileges in regard to pay, promotion, and retiring annuity, and the general conditions of office belonging to the Covenanted Civil Service suitable to natives obtaining office under the Statutory Rules?

## Official Paper.

Circular No. 4P.

FROM COLMAN MACAULAY, Esq., C.I.E.,  
Offg. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal,  
TO ALL COMMISSIONERS OF DIVISIONS.

Dated Calcutta, the 10th January 1887.

POLITICAL.

SIR,—I am directed to forward to you the enclosed copy of a circular letter from the Government of India, designating Wednesday, 16th February, as the day for the celebration of Her Majesty's jubilee throughout India. I am desired by the Lieutenant-Governor to request you to send a copy of this letter to all public bodies within your jurisdiction, and to communicate to them the assurance expressed by His Excellency in Council that they will not fail to take steps to celebrate worthily the completion of fifty years of the benevolent reign of our Illustrious Sovereign. Sir Rivers Thompson shares this confidence, and believes that the inhabitants of Bengal will not be backward among the subjects of the Empire in displaying their reverence for the public and private virtues which have made Her Majesty's name a bright word in history, and an object of affection and veneration among the lowliest of her people. I have &c.

COLMAN MACAULAY,

Offg. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

## CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Sealed tenders will be received up to 2 P. M., on the 31st instant, for the supply of three lacs cubic feet of Indigenous Stone, up to 31st March 1888.

2. The stone is to be from Rajmahal Hills, and of the best quality, sample of which can be seen at the Municipal Depôts, to be broken so as to pass freely in all directions through a ring 2' in diameter, and to be delivered and stacked in the Depôts at Bagbazar or Nuntollah.

3. Each tender may be for 10,000 c. feet or in multiples of that amount, and the rate per 100 c. feet of broken stone, delivered and stacked in the Depôts, is to be stated in each tender, which must be accompanied by sample of stone in a sealed bag and Rs. 5 per cent. as earnest money, which will be returned in case the tender is not accepted.

4. The parties whose tenders are accepted must sign deeds of contract, duly stamped and registered at their own expense.

5. The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

UDOY NARAIN SINGHA,  
Superintendent of Stores.

18th January 1887.

## THE COUNTESS OF DUFFERIN'S FUND.

The second General Meeting of the Members of the National Association for supplying female, medical aid to the women of India will be held in the TOWN HALL, CALCUTTA,

On Wednesday afternoon,  
the 26th instant, at 7-30 p. m.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE Viceroy  
WILL BE IN THE CHAIR.

Admission Free.

*Holloway's Pills.*—Invalids distracted by indigestion and discouraged in their search for its remedy should make trial of this never-failing medicine. A lady, long a martyr to dyspeptic tortures, writes that Holloway's Pills made her feel as if a burden had been taken off her. Her spirits, formerly low, have greatly improved; her capricious appetite has given place to healthy hunger; her dull, sick headache has departed, and gradually so marvellous a change has been effected, that she is altogether a new creature, and again fit for her duties. These Pills may be administered with safety to the most delicate. They never act harshly, nor do they ever induce weakness; they rightly direct deranged, and control excessive, action.

## LAST NOTICE.

License Department.

Defaulters of all kinds of Licenses—those for Trades and Professions, Carriage and Horse and Carts, are hereby given the last precautionary Notice that if they fail to deposit their respective Licenses on or before the 30th January, the Prosecuting officers will at once take action against them without further delay.

By order,

NOBO GOPAL MITTER,  
License Officer.

## CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Tenders are invited and will be received by undersigned up to noon of Wednesday the 26th instant for unloading refuse from railway wagons at the Salt Water Lakes including spreading and levelling the said refuse for three years commencing 1st April next. Contract form may be seen on application. Tenders to be at per wagon.

Tenders to be addressed under sealed cover superscribed *Tender for unloading refuse*, and each tender must be accompanied by an earnest deposit of Rupees 1,000 one thousand.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

ROBERT TURNBULL,  
Secretary to the Corporation.

Municipal Office, 6th January 1887.

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS, LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1887.

No. 258

## The Week.

THE expression of popular satisfaction at the rumoured appointment of Mr. YULE as Mr. BULLEN SMITH's successor in the India Council, appears to have been premature, the vacancy being filled by Mr. R. HARDIE, Secretary and Treasurer of the Bank of Bengal. The appointment will be viewed with different feelings by the several sections of the Indian community. For ourselves, from the independence he showed on the Finance Commission and particularly from his treatment of his Bank subordinates, we have a favorable opinion of Mr. HARDIE, and are disposed to think that his influence will usually be in the right direction. Meanwhile, may we hope to see him crown as well as determine his career at the Bank, by a moderate increase to the pay of the establishment, especially in the more starved branches?

EVERYWHERE the cry is for Technical Education. At Patna, they intend to commemorate the Jubilee by the scheme of an Industrial school which was first originated as a memorial of the visit of the Prince of Wales. A lac of rupees was raised by public subscription amongst the Behar Chiefs, to which Syed LUTF ALI KHAN added another lac. Partly from the inadequacy of this amount, other subscriptions not coming in, but chiefly from the want of popular interest in the object, the two lacs raised was lent to the Municipality, at 3 per cent. interest. It is now proposed to revive the project, doubtless in the hope that the people are now better disposed. We fear the disposition will not be found earnest enough, yet.

WE congratulate the Dacca College Cricket Club on their again scoring a victory this year over the Calcutta Presidency College. The latter have no cause to be ashamed, considering that Principal BOOTH and Professor TAPER headed their boys. On the second match indeed the Presidency recovered ground.

To-day the Town Cricket Club will play against the Leinster Band.

THE French Chamber have rejected the Budget in the same way as the German Reichstag, and a ministerial crisis has only been averted by the acquiescence of the cabinet in the vote.

THE German Government seem to be uneasy on account of the large purchases of German horses taking place apparently for the armies of other countries, and have prohibited their exportation.

It is estimated that Baroness BURDETT COUTTS has given away four millions pounds in charity. And her four is equal to twenty of the indiscriminate East.

THE London Socialists are a determined lot. Again they repeated the outrage of hissing during the prayer for the Queen and the Royal Family at several metropolitan churches.

THE London Daily News states that in the opinion of Government war between France and Germany is imminent. Germany, it is reported, will shortly demand of the French Government an explanation for its massing of troops on the frontier. A Berlin telegram, however, contradicts the statement.

IN France the increasing popularity of General BOULANGER, and the bellicose attitude of the press of the Extremist party, are viewed with jealousy and fear by the Moderates.

THE Indian Daily News learns that the Maharaja of Jeypore and the Maharajah of Tipperah intend visiting Calcutta shortly.

HIS Highness the Maharajah Scindia will shortly arrive in Calcutta. The Maharajah of Bharatpore is also expected.

THE Bengal Sub-Committee of the Public Service Commission next proceed to Dacca. Babu RAGHUNATH DAS has placed his house at the disposal of Justice MITTER during his stay in that town.

BABU PRYANATH GHOSE, M.A., personal assistant to the Maharajah of Cooch Behar, has been elected a Fellow of the London Society of Science and Arts.

THE East says that the expenses incurred for the reception of the Delegates to the National Congress lately held at Calcutta, amount to Rs. 10,000.

THE Roman Catholics of Southern India have been giving grand receptions to the Papal Delegate, and the establishment of the Papal hierarchy is being celebrated with great solemnity.

THE Quetta Railway is now close up to Khojak, and hopes are expressed that the Hurnai line will shortly be completed to the Pishin plateau.

THE Nawab Bahadoor of Moorshedabad proposes to permanently commemorate the Jubilee by founding a Midwifery Institution at his city. The Nizam of Hyderabad establishes a Hospital for *parda* women.

MR. SRINIVAS RAO, appointed by Sir LEPEL GRIFFIN as Chief Justice of Gwalior, has arrived there. He was formerly District Judge in the Indore State, and latterly Dewan of Dewas.

FOR the ensuing financial year, the value of the rupee in all transactions between the Government of India and the Home Government has been fixed by a Treasury order at 1s. 6d.

IT is said that Mr. J. E. COOKE, Deputy Accountant-General of Bengal, has been deputed to make retrenchments in the office establishment of the Accountant-General of Bengal.

MR. MANN, M. A., Principal of the Kishnaghur College, goes home on furlough. He is held in great esteem for his high scholarship as well as his kindly manners by the local community.

DURING his Excellency's tour in Sind, Lord REAY opened the Sind Arts College for which over a lac of Rupees has been subscribed, the annual expenditure being over Rs. 24,000.

THE Dacca Gazette apprehends that the abolition of the Dacca College is in contemplation, the idea having, it is said, originated with Mr. CUNNINGHAM of the Finance Committee.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

THE United States Government threaten England with war in the event of attack being made on American fishermen by the Canadian Government.

ONE SUNKER LAL, an up-country vendor of shawls living at Dacca, has been murdered in his room on the night previous to his proposed return home, under circumstances which point suspicion against his servant.

THE telegraph announces "Sir JOSEPH WHITWORTH, Bart, the artilleryist is dead." By "artilleryist," Reuter's man means, of course, gun-maker. WHITWORTH is a distinct loss to his country, the more so at this moment, in view of the thickening complication.

THE Bombay Government have administered a sharp wiggling to the municipality for refusing to raise the consolidated Rate from 8 to 8½ per cent. There is little to choose between the several administrations of foreigners.

THE 51st anniversary of the Adi Brahma Somaj, celebrated with the usual *clat* at the house of Babu DEBENDRANATH TAGORE, was witnessed by a large assemblage, among whom were the Right Honorable the Earl of Rosebery, Lord Fyfe, and Mr. Herbert Gladstone.

THE family of Mr. DINSHAW MANECKJEE PETIT have contributed Rs. 10,000 to the Jubilee Fund, besides a separate large donation which Mr. DINSHAW himself proposes to give for a permanent memorial. The Jubilee expenditure in Bombay is expected to exceed two lacs, half of which will be spent on illuminations and a fair.

THE Suburban Municipal Commissioners intend to commemorate the Jubilee by providing additional accommodation for in-door patients at the Sunbhoo Nath Pandit Hospital, subscriptions for the expense, whereof will be raised from the public. A public meeting will be called for further considering the subject.

THE efforts of the Russian Government for the settlement of the Bulgarian question are reported as being now received with favor by most Cabinets. The *Journal de St. Petersburg* points out the prior importance of giving a legally constituted Government to Bulgaria, after which the Powers might proceed to select a Prince for the throne.

THE Police Court has listened to the protestations of virtue of the Police Inspector. Poor AMRITAJAL BOSE, Pleader Small Cause Court, KALI PADA BOSE, Pleader High Court, and another, have, on a charge of bribery, been committed to the Sessions of the Calcutta High Court.

A MIRZAPUR Correspondent of the *Pioneer* says that Moonshi ISHRI PERSHAD, Subordinate Judge of Mirzapore, was beaten with shoes by one SHLOMANI, a Brahman, on his way home from the court on the 17th instant. The accused has been sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment, but why he committed such an outrage does not seem to have transpired during the trial.

THE new Governor of Madras in his first speech at Madras, at a Wesleyan meeting, expressed his readiness to encourage any Christian sect in Madras. No Governor, said his Excellency, who tried to do his duty to his sovereign, could make a greater mistake than to show indifference to the Christian religion, especially in India, where nothing lowered anybody in the estimation of natives more than indifference to religion. As regards female education, he counselled moderation and respect for the prejudices of the native population.

A BENGALI gentleman, named Babu GURUPRASAD GHOSE, of Sukchar, residing in Calcutta, died on Saturday last at the age of 105 years — one year less than the age of Mrs. URSULA LUGY BATCHELOR, born at Tranquebar in 1780, who died last month at Madras. He was healthy and strong till within the last two years. His wife who died two years ago was also long-lived, having lived to 98 years. They were married as infants. That was a match indeed. We only hope that it did not end there. It is frightful to think of dragging an unhappy partnership extending to a century!

THE Hon'ble Mr. Justice WEST, Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University, took the opportunity of his Convocation speech to make an earnest appeal to the wealthy for University endowments. He said:—

"To the wealthy gentlemen to whom he appealed, and who had wealth to spare, he would say that they would find plenty of opportunities for the better employment of their riches, if they took care to search after appropriate objects, without in any way wounding the susceptibilities of others. Speaking of the library reminded him of an historical parallel. It related to the future greatness of Bombay. The parallel was of a great city founded by a great conqueror—the city of Alexandria. Having a great and capacious harbour it grew in wealth, grew in commerce, prospered under the benign rule of a long line of learned and beneficent potentates, and occupied a great name in history. But with all those blessings its reputation up to the present day was most associated with the idea of its magnificent and nearly unequalled library, and the men of learning who were the glory of the ancient city. Now, Bombay occupied nearly an analogous position to Alexandria in regard to its mercantile transactions with the world. It was the interchange of ideas, quite independent of the wealth of the citizens, that would raise in the scale this city, which was now worthy of comparison with the great city founded by Alexander the Great. Hence it would be held to be the noblest duty of the rich citizens of this city to endow its University with gifts worthy of great citizens, and thus to encourage learning and research, which would make Bombay the first city in India, if not in the world, as Alexandria had been. There was an instance of private munificence of that kind found recorded in the day-books of the merchants of the city of Florence. Not only were those citizens lavish in their gifts and expenditure in sending out their trades correspondents and agents in search of manuscripts, but they were ambitious to secure learned men from different countries, wherever possible, for the benefit of their city. Yet another instance in point. The city of Bologna spent half its municipal funds on educational institutions. Following that rule, he would ask the Municipality of Bombay to spend fifteen lakhs a year in the same manner. He was quite aware of the many calls on the Municipal funds; but still, he maintained, something could be done to assist in the development of learning and literature. The city of Padua supported as many as thirty professors in Law, Literature, and Medicine. Would the Municipality of Bombay maintain half the number, say fifteen professors, in Law, Literature, and Medicine? For the *renaissance* of Italian learning the princes, nobles, and chiefs of those days contributed handsomely and without stint; and the Indian chiefs ought to do the same towards the *renaissance* of their own country. The Indian chiefs should read the history of the re-awakening of life and knowledge, when even the universities had sunk deep into the 'ruts of routine.' It was at the courts of Popes and Princes that the Italians found their supporters of learning. The princes of India the University invited to respond to its call; they were here assured against all jealousy respecting the benefactions they gave for the furtherance of the great objects the University of Bombay had in view; the University extended the hand of good-fellowship to them. There was more than one prince who would not scruple to expend one, two, or even five lakhs to secure the addition of one more gun to the salute accorded to him. The speaker was far from discouraging aspirations of this kind for tokens of respect from the paramount Sovereign; but to the princes he would say, 'Come and assist the University in its noble endeavours, and thereby gain not only the one gun to the salute, but the undying salute of universal applause.' Alluding to the heaven and elixir of Scandinavian Mythology, the hon. the Vice-Chancellor proceeded to remark that here, in the University Hall, was the true Valhalla, in which the princes and chiefs would move grandly about, worthy of the worship of future generations. The University was at present in fear, as if the sword of Damocles hung over their heads, owing to the policy of retrenchment enunciated by the Government. He would not like to offer any remarks against that policy at the time of general pecuniary embarrassment. No one felt that embarrassment more acutely than the Government themselves. The policy separated some of the institutions connected with the University from Government supervision and support. There should not be any such total severance. Although they could not criticise the measures and policy of Government, they might for all that consider the question as a University. The example of private endowments and benefactions in England had been advanced in support of the policy; but it should be remembered that England had a special history of its own under that head. Therefore their representation to the Government was that the question at least deserved fresh examination and review before the peculiarity of the circumstances was made applicable to India."

On the subject of technical education, Mr. Justice WEST said:—

"Coming to the subject of technical education, the hon. the Vice-Chancellor positively affirmed that the necessity for it was so pressing that if the funds for its encouragement were not available from other sources, Government were bound to give the education at the cost even of other institutions. By technical education riches were brought to their feet, the poor became rich, and there was scarce another object which deserved State sympathy and support in a greater measure. The Government had been afraid to look the question fully in the face. What they had done in relation to it hitherto, they had done half-heartedly. Were Government minded to sacrifice technical education to general education, the University would have no alternative but to rest satisfied, and wait until better times came. The technical system should be gradually introduced through special schools opened for the purpose; but when it had reached a higher stage it would be beyond the reach of the primary institution to satisfy the growing want. Then would the masters of factories and proprietors of workshops take the matter into their hands for further advancement. Here the question arose, whether the crown of the system should be in a polytechnic college or the University? At all events, the theoretical portion of the

work, namely, the supervision and teaching of the general literature and science of the institution, could be allotted to the University; the practical portion should be done in a different way. No University could afford to put itself out of the general movement of thought in the world—much less the University of Bombay, and therefore the standard should keep on a level with that elsewhere. There were professors of pure sciences in the University who would assist the professors of applied science and technology in their work. 'Division of labour' should be the principle in the promotion of the project; otherwise it would not be possible to effect anything of importance. It was true that the scientific portion of the training could be obtained at the University, but there were many concurrent subjects which could not best be learnt there. The University could at the most lay the foundations; and he hoped that side by side with them there would be large endowments forthcoming for the purposes of practical instruction in the various branches."

THE application for injunction made on behalf of Government to restrain the Maharaja of Tipperah from proceeding with his Rent Suit against the South Sylhet Tea Company has been rejected with costs of the opposite party (the Maharaja). But the case has been postponed on the following conditions agreed upon by all parties concerned till the disposal of the title suit brought by Government against the Maharaja and others.

(1) That the company must pay into court the amount of the rent claimed (Rs. 38,000) which will remain in deposit till the final order in the title suit is passed.

(2) That no evidence will be adduced by either party in the rent suit, it being decided by the result of the title suit.

WE take the following news from the East:—

"A very daring case of robbery and theft occurred the other day in broad day light at the Kartick Baruni fair in Moonshigunge. One Bak-shah and three others came from Tipperah to sell paddy at Jimna. On Thursday the 6th instant they went over to the Fair with their boat to make some purchases. Next day at about 10 A. M. when two of the boatmen went overland there came one Tarim Charan alias Ashutosh Bose of Jessore to the boat and enquired from two other *Mallahs* who remained therein if they could carry some of his things to a certain place. He was told that the headman was away in the fair, and they would not be able to give him an answer until he returned. This man in the meantime went away and there came a second man on the same errand and managed to take away one of the two remaining *Mallahs* to find out the *Head-manji* in the *Mela*. As soon as this had been done there came a third man named Ambika Charan Dey Biswas of Faridpore who on the pretext of his *lota* having gone down into the river asked the remaining *Mallah* to find it out. The *Mallah* however did not obey him and upon this they began to quarrel with each other, and Tarim alias Ashu, the man who had come at first, took the opportunity of taking away the money bag (*Khuti*) containing a sum of Rs. 145. The *Mallah* however gave alarms, and on several men coming to the spot the culprits threw away the *Khut* beside the boat, and took to their heels. Two of them viz Ambika and Tarim were at last caught, but the third man is absconding. They are under trial before the Assistant Magistrate in charge of the Sub-division."

THE litigant portion of the public as well as the entire body of lawyers, save a handful of Judges, will be considerably relieved at the announcement that, after all, there is no immediate prospect of the High Courts adding to their already too long vacations. There is no smoke, however, without fire. Something like a proposal of the kind had, we suspect, advanced somewhat beyond the stage of mere desire. Any such feeling or suggestion, however, whatever the stage of its development, is proof of a demoralization already far advanced in a much favored service which should be arrested. Pay without work, is a very desirable paradise on earth, but it is demoralizing all the same.

THE *Patriot* said:—

"Among the many rumours afloat about the coming shower of honours, the most likely appear to be a knighthood for Mr. Harrison and Nawabships for Moulvie Abdul Jubbar and Syed Ameer Hossein. There will, of course, be many more."

Whereupon the *Indian Daily News*:—

"No doubt it is proper that there should be Knights of the Truncheon as well as of the Sword. And as the pen has been declared to be mightier than either, and there has been some talk of honouring literature, is it too much to hope that the veteran editors of the *Statesman* and the *Mirror* will not be overlooked?"

That looks too like the recommendation to the host to offer a dish again to another guest, which, in the etiquette of the dinner-table among Orientals, is a hint that the dish is wanted by the recommender himself. Anyhow, the thing will not come amiss.

## Editorial Notes.

THE chilly weather through which we have been passing, seems to have been general over the country. Benares is reported to have had winds and rain and hail. The condition of the plains is due to the meteorology of the Himalayas. Our own news from Cashmere tells of the falling of thick snow and frost for days about the same time it became cold here. At Darjeeling, the weather has been so cloudy that Prince LEOPOLD of Prussia was not only unable to enjoy his late visit or take views, but was deprived of the *summum bonum* of that wintry Paradise on earth—the sight of the glorious Snowy Range!

HIS Excellency the Commander-in-Chief arrives in Calcutta, on his return from Burma, on the 10th proximo. Sir FREDERICK ROBERTS is now at Mandalay after his inspection of the country. He last took a peep into the Ruby Mines, where quiet has been restored as evidenced by the return of the inhabitants. The Shans are working the Mines, but it is said that, pending the arrival of the mynndon, of the lucky or luckless (as the case may be) farmer, they are secreting the larger stones.

A MEETING of the Bengal Branch of the National Association for supplying female medical aid to the women of India, was held at the Town Hall under the presidency of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, for the purpose of adopting the report of the operations of the Association for the last year. In laying the report before the meeting, His Honor congratulated the Association on the satisfactory progress made during the year, and referred in particular to the establishment in Calcutta in April last of that useful institution—the Lady Dufferin Dispensary for women and children. This Dispensary has already become popular and attractive, and afforded medical relief to a large number of women. Sir RIVERS THOMPSON also referred to the opening of the Surnomoyee Hospital, the Victoria Institution at Cuttack and the Durbhanga Hospital as well as the foundation of scholarships by Sir WALTER DESOUSA and Pandit SAILAJANAND OJHA, High Priest of the temple of Baidyanath. Altogether, it was a year of fairly good work done, on which all concerned may well be congratulated.

THROUGH the courtesy of Major COOPER, A. D. C., the amiable honorary Secretary of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund, we have received an advance copy of the second Annual Report of the Central Committee of the Association, written by Lady Dufferin, the President. From the report which is a compact narrative of much useful work done by the Central Committee and the Branch Associations and local agencies in the different parts of the country, it is highly gratifying to learn that an efficient and completely ramified organization has been formed for promoting the objects of the Association, and that these objects have met with active sympathy everywhere. The Central Fund had a balance of Rs. 1,46,188 this time last year, since which date about Rs. 74,000 has been received, raising the capital sum to nearly two lacs and a quarter, the greater portion of which has been invested in 5 and 4½ per cent securities. The Annual income of the Central Fund is about Rs. 19,500, made up of Rs. 9,750 interest on investments, of Rs. 2,700 from annual subscribers, and of a sum contributed by the Branches. Satisfactory as the progress of the Association has been for the period it has been started into life, much yet remains to be done for placing it upon a stable and thoroughly efficient footing. It has received much aid from the nobles and Chiefs of India, but it has yet to be based upon the foundations of popular support and sympathy. Towards this end, an earnest appeal is now made to the nation at large through the Branch Associations and the educated middle class in general, and by way of assisting that appeal, Jubilee Cards for the collection of smaller subscriptions have been designed, and it is satisfactory to have the Secretary's testimony

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—Coughs, Influenza.—The soothing properties of these medicaments render them well worthy of trial in all diseases of the respiratory organs. In common colds and influenza the Pills, taken internally, and the Ointment rubbed over the chest and throat, are exceedingly efficacious. When influenza is epidemic, this treatment is the easiest, safest, and surest. Holloway's Pills purify the blood, remove all obstacles to its free circulation through the lungs, relieve the over-gorged air tubes, and render respiration free, without reducing the strength, irritating the nerves, or depressing the spirits; such are the ready means of saving suffering when anyone is afflicted with colds, coughs, bronchitis, and other chest complaints, by which so many persons are seriously and permanently afflicted in most countries.

that demands for these cards are coming in faster than he can meet them.

THE economies recommended by the Finance Committee by a readjustment of the financial contracts, between the Supreme and Provincial Governments for the next five years, are as follows :

North-Western Provinces	...	Rs. 12,65,000
Central Provinces	...	" 1,85,000
Bombay	...	" 27,22,000
Madras	...	" 16,30,000
Assam	...	" 1,87,000
Bengal	...	" 11,52,000
Total	...	" 71,41,000

It is understood that a further saving of Rs. 15,70,000 by another readjustment of those contracts will be recommended for the consideration of Government. Besides these economies, a saving of Rs. 43,57,000 in certain Imperial and Miscellaneous expenditure has been suggested, making a grand total of Rs. 1,30,68,000. All these economies will not, however, be available at once, as many of them must be deferred during existing incumbencies.

ON Mr. BRADFORD LESLIE'S return, Mr. CAMPBELL reverted to his office at Jamalpore of Locomotive Superintendent, East Indian Railway. Our Jamalpore correspondent hears a rumour that in the event of Mr. LESLIE'S retirement, Mr. DENHAM, the Chief Engineer, will be Agent to the Company.

ANOTHER rumour from the same source is that the Government of India has sanctioned the introduction of pensions to the Railway servants worn out after length of service. This is cheering to a large number of deserving public servants and their families and dependents—the more so at a time when financial reformers like our able contemporary of the *Advocate of India* would destroy the dignity and the principal charm of Government service by abolishing the pensions of the covenanted and other classes of public employes.

THE Subarnavans—as the Sonarbanias or caste of traders in gold are Sanskritically styled—are in one respect an enviable fraternity. They are a compact body by themselves, who can afford to make their social laws and pass ordinances a good deal independent of the other superior sections of the Hindu community. More than once the bolder spirits have claimed the right to wear the holy thread, as being the true lineal descendants of the last of the three twice-born castes—the *vaishyas*, though on every occasion such attempts have come to nought. At the present moment, there is much stir among them about the readmission to caste, without penances, of an England-retained medical student of the clan. The more go-a-head of the community would admit him on easy terms, while some of the leading men wisely insist on his passing through some purificatory ceremony, as, at any rate, offering some guarantee of earnestness and sincerity on the part of the candidate for readmission. The best test of sincerity, however, often comes late in these cases, when the young men who have seen the world, have converted their accomplishments acquired in the West to their money-value in the East—after their pockets are well full, or in a fair way towards it, do they still yearn for being restored to the fond embrace of their Hindu home? That is the test, rather than the cheap protestation of stavehings who have yet no resources of their own to fall back upon.

MR. SANDERSON, Superintendent of the Kheddahs, has made a grand capture of 140 elephants in the Gari Hills, which means more than a lac of rupees if the poor fellows (as we may well call our magnificent fellow-creatures) do not speedily escape to that undiscovered country from whose bourne there is no hope of recapture. The capture is a cruel business. The animals are stupefied by terror and crushed by hunger before they surrender their rights of nature—their native freedom. The process so lowers their vitality and spirits that they usually sicken and die off. There are genuine heroes among this noble race, who, after the unavailing struggle in defence of their natural rights, submit but refuse to take any sustenance and quietly expire. How few of us proud men have half the self-respect of these exemplary "brutes"!

THE Italian TANNER, said to have fasted fifty days, is overwhelmed with offers of marriage from ladies who regard him as a hero. Mar-

riage must be a rare luxury in the land where women throw themselves on fasting or famishing Fakeers. Their inordinate haste too must account for the good ladies not answering to themselves the *cui bono*.

WE learn that the Turkish population of the Grecian Archipelago and Asia Minor are dying out. "Apathetic, badly educated, subject to the conscription for the army and police, they are unable to hold their own against the shrewder Greek population of these localities who have more of the vigor of European civilization, and are free from the harassing inconveniences of compulsory military service." That is a most important observation, but there is so much prejudice in Christendom against the unspeakable Turks that it is as likely to be a scarecrow as a verity. Assuming its correctness, it is the knell of not the Porte alone but of the Ottoman race, if not of Islam. The thing is not difficult of comprehension. It is in the Turkish as it was in the old Roman Empire, the strain upon the ruling class proves too much. The Turks are being crushed out in the effort to maintain their ascendancy, thus realising the truth—they that live by the sword shall perish by the sword. A truth literary heroes like the GRANT DUFFS have yet to learn.

A BOMBAY correspondent of the *Times* is in a hurry to vindicate the administration of Lord DUFFERIN. He displays no small ingenuity but nevertheless his performance is a failure. His transparent animus greatly detracts from the reliability of his testimony. For the rest, his is a negative vindication, the responsibility for any blunders of the present Government being conveniently laid at the door of Lord RIPON. Lord RIPON, it is said, left some awkward legacies, which made the position of his successor extremely embarrassing. One of such legacies Lord DUFFERIN truly inherited in the Bengal Tenancy Bill, but, says the *Times*' correspondent, "with the courage of a born administrator" Lord DUFFERIN at once brought the Bill forward for legislation, when "all the previous opposition died away and neither Zemindar nor rayyet has ever grumbled at the operation of the Act." If the Tenancy Bill was, however, like a base coin, one fails to realize how it could be transmuted into gold, even on the supposition that Lord DUFFERIN was the possessor of the philosopher's stone. For, Lord DUFFERIN did nothing to the Bill except sanctioning its enactment for which it was ripe. If merit is claimed for its speedy enactment as the wisest remedy for the protracted agitation and tension of feelings amongst the agricultural classes, and if the enactment has in reality proved such an agreeable disappointment to those classes, the Tenancy Bill, according to the correspondent's own facts, could hardly be a bad legacy after all. But what are the facts of the case? Has not the Act proved the very dragon's teeth, sowing suspicion and dissension between landlord and tenant? And then as to the glorious confusion in the interpretation of its provisions in the hands of the judiciary! Only the other day, the High Court had to intervene with a rule on the subject of rent suits brought by payners. The lower Courts had, on the strength of their own interpretation of the Act, been dismissing such suits by hundreds, and the amount of misery and hardship thereby inflicted on a large body of landholders, holding land as is too often the case as coparceners, may well be imagined. We are afraid the other averments regarding Burma and Cabul and Lord RIPON'S foreign policy, may not be altogether above dispute. Into the merits of Lord DUFFERIN'S rule, so far as it has gone, it is not our present purpose to enter. A full and impartial estimate is only possible in the light of facts which state-policy hides from vulgar eyes. But probably the vindicator of the ways of vicereignty to man is not his own master. Such extravagant expressions as "The courage of a born administrator," in the absence of colorable occasion, betray the apologist. Even in that case, we must say our correspondent had better leave RIPON alone. If it is impossible for him to put in a good word for Lord DUFFERIN, without falling foul of his Lordship's predecessor, he can scarcely expect any thanks from his hero himself. If we at all understand Lord DUFFERIN, he is far too generous to wish to build his reputation on the ruins of another's name. And he understands his predecessor's difficulties from his own.

THE Government of India have fixed both the 16th and 17th of February next to be observed as holidays in all public offices in celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee. A Notification to this effect has appeared in the official *Gazette*.

THE "Life of the Hon'ble Rai KRISHO DAS PAL Bahadoor, C. I. E.," by RAM GOPAL SANYAL, is a work the value of which is apt to be depreciated. That value consists in the variety of useful and interesting information relating to the subject of the biography and his contemporary men and events, which the author has brought together. The task of collecting this information and of testing its accuracy was by no means an easy one. On some points there were conflicting accounts presented to the biographer from different quarters, imposing on him no small responsibility as to what he should adopt and what reject. His diligence and devotion to his task have, however, resulted in the compilation of a work of great usefulness and which cannot fail to afford the rising generation information on the politics and ways of the older generation which they must naturally be anxious to acquire.

It is significant that, while the Government of India circular inviting public co operation in the Jubilee celebration makes prominent mention of the Municipal Councils as the quarter to which His Excellency the Governor General looked for taking an active share in the ceremony, the Government of Bengal in forwarding that circular to the Commissioners of Divisions studiously avoids any reference to those bodies by name. "I am desired by the Lieutenant-Governor," says generally Mr. Secretary MACAULAY, "to request you to send a copy of this letter to all public bodies within your jurisdiction, and to communicate to them the assurance expressed by his Excellency in Council that they will not fail to take steps to celebrate worthily the completion of fifty years of the benevolent reign of our illustrious Sovereign." The reasons for this silence or at best guarded language, about Municipalities in the Bengal circular, is not far to seek. The present Bengal Government will always remember it. There is even now we believe pending at Dacca a suit against the Municipality for misappropriating the city revenue to honouring Sir RIVERS THOMPSON during his last visit.

It were much to be wished that the celebration of the Jubilee in India passed off without a hitch. But it does not appear destined to that distinction. Already, significant whispers of dissatisfaction are heard that the date for the celebration is not all that could be desired. The middle of February would be, it is said, the most anxious time for the public mind when it is usually agitated with the hopes and fears in connection with the Budget. More overt expressions of dissatisfaction with the timing of the ceremony, are now telegraphed from Madras city, where a section of the citizens seem to be determined to hold the Jubilee on the day of its English celebration. Is this a political move to force the hands of Sir AUCKLAND COLVIN? who is reported to be meditating an addition to the Income Tax.

It now appears that considerations of a far different kind weighed with the Madrasces in wishing for a postponement. They very considerably thought that the frightful memory of the late catastrophe at the Park was yet too green for any festivities. But the tact of the Hon'ble Mr. BOURKE, their new Governor, has succeeded in prevailing over them to forget their sorrow in the greater joy of a unique event.

OUR acknowledgments are due to Messrs. GRAHAM and CO., for their kind remembrance of us, in the distribution of wall Almanacs of the Lancashire Insurance Company, the Phoenix Fire office, the London and Lancashire Life Assurance Company, the Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society, and the Fire Insurance Association. What an amount of the same quality in the market!—it puzzles the pen to proceed. So much assurance, we are sure, cannot go for nothing!

To prevent confusion, it may be worth identifying the Lala ISHRI PRASAD, who is reported to have been honored with a course of visitation from Brahmanic slippers. He is a native of Bareilly, who, failing in the Vakeel bar of the High Court, entered the Subordinate Judicial Service, being, with the introduction of English as the Court language, appointed a Moonsiff of the first grade. He is now a Sub Judge, without distinction for knowledge or intelligence. His Holiness SHEOMANGAL seems to have been a suitor who has gone to the hazard of sharpening the wits of the bench in the summary and effective, if barbarous, old way.

THE Countess of Dufferin will open on Monday next, the Ezra Hospital, the gift of Mrs. EZRA.

WE confess we have not felt much enthusiasm on the subject of the Jubilee, and hence we were all the more glad to let Captain HEARSEY, an officer and gentleman of fervid hereditary loyalty, write on the subject for us. One great reason for it all was that we did not see in any quarter any tolerable suggestion for celebration, and none suggested itself to us. We are now able to offer one from the fertile brain of our wellknown veteran Babu RAJINDER DUTT. He would have all Calcutta and Suburbs come out on the 16th February, singing and rejoicing, in proper procession, with flags bearing appropriate legends, each race or class in its own way, accompanied by its children (unless these formed part of school and college processions) and headed by its elders, each quarter sending forth its peculiar music or noisy demonstration, its priests of every denomination—its Moollahs, Gosains, and Padres—its Olemas and Pandits—shouting "Long Live!" reciting original verse and singing songs and tunes composed for the occasion, all in this way—all alive with Jubilation—proceeding to Government Place, then shouting themselves hoarse with Loyalty to the Reign of Law and Progress of VICTORIA and England, as they pass all round Government House—the residence of the supreme ruler of the Indies as the Sovereign's Representative—into the vast Plain at hand, to take their appointed places, and, after reciting and singing there and making the welkin ring with their demonstrations of joy and attachment, return in order, and quietly disperse. Institutions and associations of almost every description should join the movement, and have their allotted ground on the *Maidan*. On such a joyous occasion, when every subject should come out in his gala dress and in his best spirits, it would not do to attract to the metropolis all the beggarm of the land. No ceremony of the kind in the East is complete without largesses and distribution of coin, however, and here there ought to be some presents to the real priesthood and select Syuds, Dostooris, Rabbis, Brahmans and Phoongees, whose vocation is to pray for king and people.

Such a celebration would be novel, perhaps, even unique, but it is quite in accordance with Oriental associations and methods. We have seen no suggestion approaching it likely to meet the requirements of the occasion. Its novelty is no argument against it but is rather its best recommendation. Yet we feel that its strangeness to them is in the way of its acceptability to the British. The nearest thing ever attempted was the obsequial celebration or *sraddh* which the present writer had performed by all Oudh in 1862, on the death of Lord CANNING, and that was a success, but there only Hindus and Mahomedans were concerned and they seized the idea and carried it out as soon as the religious difficulty was avoided. Here we have to rouse and warm the cold North, and to make the severe unpassioned British, first to subdue his contempt for other nations and his impatience of all ceremonials, and then to take kindly to the at once feeble and noisy music and the hurras and *Hori-hori-hols* in unknown tongues of the barbaric East. But the East is not the West, and the East must be endured till God in His Wisdom see fit to send it to the bottom of Old Ocean—that emblem of His Eternity as well as His destructive power. Meantime, those from the other points of the compass who rule it might make the best of a bad business, and possibly better it, by humoring its more amiable weaknesses. Lord DUFFERIN has the imagination, as he has had the experience, to appreciate the poetry, the grandeur, and above all the political effect, of such a genuine British-Indian demonstration on the historic day.

The expense will be a trifle and the thing might be managed by a week's zealous work. Mr. HARRISON and Mr. TURNBULL, with some of the elder natives, might do it.

THERE is some stir, and no little surprise, in the Calcutta community about the proposed expenditure from the municipal funds of a lac of rupees for the celebration of the Jubilee. The enthusiastic gentlemen who meditated this swoop on the city exchequer took their measures warily. To make the grant acceptable to the public, the major portion of it, Rs. 85,000 was destined for a permanent memorial. To make it still more acceptable, the first idea was that the permanent memorial should take the shape of a technical school which is the prevailing rage now all over the country. There is dissatisfaction, nevertheless. The Municipal Commissioners themselves, or at any rate the Town Council, did not feel sure of their ground. They were doubtful of the legality of the outlay, and they proposed to get out of the difficulty by taking legal opinion on the question, and in the event of that opinion being adverse, asking Government to pass brief



Acts for authorizing and legalizing the expenditure. Notwithstanding the evident misgivings and the strange devices resorted to drown them, the vote was all but unanimously passed by the Town Council. Only one member, Babu OMIRTONATH MITTER, showed the courage of his conviction to oppose the proceeding all through. We can well imagine several amongst the members of the Town Council being of the same mind as Babu OMIRTONATH who still assented to the vote from mere feelings of delicacy. No one would incur the least imputation of churlishness on an occasion like the present. But feelings of delicacy ought to give way before a public duty. The question before the Town Council was not one of loyalty to the sovereign, but of the validity of the expenditure they proposed under the existing law. The Commissioners are the custodians of the people's money. That money represents the proceeds of a most heavy and intolerable taxation, the only justification for which is its absolute necessity for purposes of the people's safety and convenience. The Calcutta Municipal Act gives no authority for the expenditure of the municipal fund on objects other than those specifically laid down in the law. This point is clear, and the utmost legal ingenuity cannot torture the law into a sanction of the expenditure in the form in which it was first proposed. The wiser course, at any rate, would have been to take legal opinion before bringing forward the subject before the General Meeting. Under any circumstances, it was an embarrassing situation to all concerned, but the action of the Town Council, in first sanctioning the expenditure and afterwards applying for legal opinion or legislative sanction, increases the awkwardness and embarrassment. The Loyalists in the Town Council might well have saved themselves and the municipality from committal to a course from which there was perhaps no graceful escape, by asking themselves whether that course would commend itself to the general body of ratepayers. The Commissioners now present the spectacle of having changed front, with respect to the legal aspect of the question, without relieving the municipal fund. The grant is retained, only the terms of it are slightly altered, to evade the legal difficulty.

There is considerable dissatisfaction at the proposed expenditure amongst the more sober and thoughtful portion of the community. That the lower classes of ratepayers share that feeling even more intensely, goes without saying. These people yield to none in their loyalty or in their desire that the Jubilee should be celebrated in a manner worthy of the metropolis of British India. But they hold, and we believe justly, that no sentimental considerations can justify an act which directly or indirectly contravenes the spirit of the law. Nor is it expedient that any expenditure, not strictly municipal, should be devolved on the municipalities. It has of late become the fashion to look to these for aid towards every conceivable scheme of education and charity. Mr. Justice WEST, in his Convocation Address, appealed to the municipalities for founding additional professors' chairs in the Bombay University. The friends of Lady Dufferin's Fund look to the same quarter for substantial and permanent help, as if the Municipal Fund were a veritable pagoda tree. We view the ascendancy of these views amongst our highest officials with alarm, and we think a strong protest should be made against any proposed legislation for giving effect to such views. Municipal taxation has reached its highest point everywhere, and anything calculated to increase it should be resisted in time.

AFTER the way in which native gentlemen are reported to be treated by the fragments of the Public Service Commission, do any of our contemporaries still wonder why people are shy of business?

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1887.

### THE TIMES ON THE NATIONAL CONGRESS.

THE *Times* pours contempt upon the National Congress. It is an unreal imitation of the English Caucus, and merely an affair of discontented place-seekers—men of straw, with little or no stake in the country. It writes:—

"A 'National Indian Congress,' composed, it is said, of some three hundred delegates from all parts of the country, holds its first meeting in Calcutta to-day. It is organized, of course, upon the model of the societies which discuss social and political affairs in this country. Papers will be read, and debates will take place, while the necessary relief from that attractive but arduous labor will be found in excursions and evening parties. The subjects discussed are the representation of Natives in the Legislative Councils, the admission of Natives to more numerous and responsible posts in the Civil Service, and, generally, the objections to British administration which naturally occur to persons of considerable imitative powers, of great fluency of speech, and of total ignorance of the real problems of Government and the means by which they have to be overcome in practice. The Mahomedan community appear to hold aloof from this kind of thing, on the ground that they prefer not to hamper the Government at a time when it is doing its best for the Natives of India. This incidentally shows what the real aims and results of the 'National Indian Congress' are considered to be by the Natives of India themselves; at the same time, adding another to many proofs that we must look to our Mahomedan subjects for the most sensible and moderate estimate of our policy. These annual gatherings, held now in one great town and again in another, derive their significance from the fact that they represent a

vast amount of continuous discussion by local societies. We have produced an extensive class of talkers, and equipped them with a great deal of second-hand knowledge of English history and literature. In every considerable town, these gentlemen form associations and discuss real or imaginary grievances with the confident dogmatism always displayed by people, whose pet theories work *in vacuo*. Such a Congress as that which sat last year in Bombay, or is now sitting in Calcutta, is composed of delegates from all these talking clubs who focus the valuable results of their perennial activity. Thus we have to deal with public opinion of a kind, but it is important to remember that it is the public opinion of a class whose aims and interests are not by any means identical with those of the great masses of the Indian populations for whom we have to care. It is a highly vocal class, which can repeat all the commonplaces of English political life with extraordinary facility, but which has very little stock in trade besides that aptitude. Such a class has only two congenial occupations after supplying a certain limited number of busy doctors and lawyers—one is to seek employment under Government, and the other to abuse the Government which does not give it employment enough. These societies and the newspapers they control represent a very trifling percentage of the people of India, it is much less certain than they probably imagine that their success would prove a benefit to any section of the Indian people except themselves. But they have learned from us, among other valuable lessons, how to throw dust in the eyes of the mob, and how to present their own ends under the guise of public benefits. Consequently they constitute a factor which has to be reckoned with, and which in certain circumstances might become a serious danger to public tranquillity."

The worth of this estimate may, however, be easily appraised. It is based neither upon an actual knowledge of what the Congress was and what it did—that being out of the question—nor even upon good hear-say evidence. The article from which we quote being written on the day of the Congress Meeting, the London journal could only evolve its facts and conclusions from the bowels of its inner consciousness. Not that it had not materials of some kind for a judgment. The newspapers of this country, not to say its own correspondents, had announced the coming event as well as the character of the discussions which were to take place. But that hardly afforded adequate grounds for an opinion so strong and so dogmatic upon a matter on which one could not speak with the weight of personal knowledge. The *Times* might, at the least, wait till after the Congress was over. Apparently, however, from its impatience of the very name of a National Congress, it could not command even that moderate degree of self-restraint. The very idea of a Congress was too abhorrent in its eyes—it was too great an impertinence for forbearance. So, while here in Calcutta the Congress begins or has scarcely begun its sittings, and does its best to make itself a success, its result is pronounced to be a failure from another end of the world, before those on the spot are sure how it will terminate. Before those on the spot are aware of the extent and character of the gathering, the *Times* tells the world all about it to the exact number of the delegates, with their social position and other particulars. Could the spirit of wild assurance farther go? Is there any humbug (speaking in befitting vernacular) like the humbug of leading journalism?

But the dodge—not to mince matters, again—will not do. The Congress was too unequivocal a success to be put down by misrepresentation. We do not belong to that pronounced school of politics which identified itself with the Congress. Our moderate counsels on questions which are generally discussed with enthusiasm, have exposed us to no little misunderstanding in that quarter. We are all the more free, therefore, to speak with impartiality on the subject. And we must say that the Congress was in reality something very different, from what the *Times* would fain imagine. It is a grievous wrong to say that it was composed of men who had no stake in the country. A glance at the published list of delegates would shew that the flower of every section of Indian society was there. Indeed, before we saw



the thing in its consummation, we scarcely expected it would be so great a success. Zemindars, merchants, bankers, lawyers, doctors, editors, teachers, members of District and Municipal Boards, Honorary Magistrates, in a word, the leaders of thought in every community, were assembled, so that it would have been impossible for the Indian Congress to be more respectable, more influential, more representative, that is, more national. It is true all the best men of every section did not attend, but that is nowhere possible. It must be remembered that at such meetings it is only the leisured people who can take part. But from the large numbers who came from remote parts of the continent, one may be justified in assuming that those whom their avocations or other obstacles prevented from coming, were still present in spirit. The delegates were, for the most part, representatives of some Association or other, but that is all the more a proof of their representative character. In the absence of electoral institutions, it is these Associations which best discharge elective functions, and the fact that these Associations are something better than talking clubs, was well proved by the sober and practical character of the entire proceedings. It may be all very well to pretend that the masses were not represented. That is the stock argument of cavillers, but does any body seriously think that the masses of the Indian population have other thoughts and sentiments than those which found expression from the mouths of their leaders. Of the questions which occupied the attention of the Congress, none excited more earnest discussion than the growing poverty of the people, and if the representation of Natives in the Legislative Councils be altogether so extravagant a demand in the eyes of Englishmen, that demand was urged in the interests of those masses themselves. It was thought that, with representation in the Councils, a check might gradually be placed on heedless expenditure which was at the root of much of the taxation and misery borne by the masses. Indeed, it is simply false to suggest that the masses, if they could think out on the problem, should be otherwise minded, not to say that they could possibly have any sympathy with the suggestions of such friends as the *Times*. It is idle to detract from the national character of the Congress by pointing to the absence of the masses. Their representation, except on rare occasions, as in every other country, is of an indirect kind, but, however indirect, it substantially serves all practical purposes. It is undeniable that some sections of the Mahomedan community have held aloof from the Congress, but the *Times* entirely misconceives their attitude. The truth is, notwithstanding their abstention, they have at heart the same objects as the rest of their countrymen. They desire no less keenly that the administration should be placed more largely in native hands, that the people should have a more influential voice in legislation. And so with respect to the other things on which the Congress held its deliberations. They, of course, have their own ideas as to the method for gaining those objects, but there can be no mistake as to the direction of their real sympathies. It has now become a favorite game of some politician to set the two great religious sections of the Indian people by the ears, but their interests are too identical for the game to succeed. As to the charge that the Congress meant to hamper the Government, no one who witnessed the moderation and perfect orderliness of the proceedings would listen to it for a moment. The Congress

was indeed a great gathering; its demands, various as they were, were all urged with earnest emphasis, and so far it amounted to a strong proof that the people at large were far from satisfied with the ways of Administration, and those ways must change to bring more contentment and happiness in the land. But we fail to see that there can be anything at all wrong in the people respectfully telling their rulers what they feel to be grievances, instead of allowing them to rankle in their breast.

• But it is vain to argue with those who would perforce be in the wrong. The *Times* is only true to its traditions in endeavouring to discredit this honest movement of the Indian people. With the leading humourist, the leading journal—no longer leading, thank God, as COBDEN, in his famous literary duel with DELANE, demonstrated—has always been the champion of the stronger race against the weaker ones. It has ever lent itself to the unrighteous cause. We firmly believe that, between the savage caricature of Paddy in *Punch* and the truculent leaders of the *Times*, both continued through a generation, Ireland has been driven to its present irreconcilable attitude. Under the teaching of an equally unrighteous and blind Press, England resisted every concession to that country until every one of those concessions could not well be withheld. When at last made, they lost their grace as free gifts and failed to secure peace for the land. With the blood of Ireland lying on its head, it is a wonder that leading journalism tries to play the same game in India.

#### THE CENTRAL MEDICAL AID FUND MEETING.

CALCUTTA Society mustered in great force, at the Town Hall, to take part in the second General Meeting of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund Meeting. Besides the local notabilities, the Earl of ROSEBURY and the Earl of FIFE graced the occasion with their presence. The High Priest of Baidyanath, who has already marked his great sympathy with the movement, by the foundation of some scholarships, also came all way from his distant shrine to give the occasion the weight of his presence,—for which Lady DUFFERIN, before leaving the Hall, sent for him to offer him her especial thanks. The meeting was altogether a great success. Lord DUFFERIN opened the business by calling on the Hon'ble Mr. PEILE to read the report, which we have briefly noticed elsewhere. After the report was read, Mr. PEILE delivered with self-possession, but without the advantage of voice or action of a practised speaker, a most excellent speech which was indeed the speech of the day, being a most thoughtful, sympathetic and persuasive argument for enlisting the co-operation of the nation at large in the success of the undertaking. In tracing the rise and progress of the great educational movement of which the present one was the outcome, he referred with great effect to the early days of his service in the Bombay Presidency, when he was often moved to pity by what he heard of the sufferings in disease of the women of India. But education grew. "Moon broadened on the borders of the dark," and a few public-spirited men in Bombay "marked where enlightenment halted in the extension of medical aid to women. They collected money and worked at their object with much devotion and success. But their work was local, and there was still something wanting to give their enterprise the volume and momentum of a national movement." That volume and momentum

was now to be afforded by the "humanity, energy and resolution" of her Excellency Lady DUFFERIN, who had adopted the only way in which this could be done, "without throwing the burden of initiation, as it is too often thrown, on the Government." The movement of Lady DUFFERIN was necessarily in the beginning a work of other hands than those of the people who are chiefly concerned in its success. "It was reasonable," said Mr. PEILE, "that English women and men, who have seen how the organisation of great institutions for charity or instruction are worked in their own country should lay down the first lines of such an organization in India. But this association would fail if it continued to be a purely exotic growth. We desire to see it strike root in the soil and among the people, and bring forth a harvest of home-born self-help and public spirit." What was now wanted was active cooperation on the part of the leaders of the people to ensure success to a work which, far from being in conflict, was, in the opinion of Mr. PEILE, in perfect harmony with the Eastern custom of female seclusion. Mr. PEILE'S observations on Indian charity are worth reflection.

On the conclusion of his speech, he proposed the adoption of the report, which was seconded by the Hon'ble Mr. CRUKSHANK, President of the Chamber of Commerce. The next speaker was the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, who, in moving for the adoption of some changes in the Rules of the Association relating to subscriptions, gave a thoroughly practical narrative of the work which the Association, and particularly its Bengal Branch, had done during the past year. The Hon'ble Moulvie ABDUL JUBBER, in seconding that motion, paid a glowing compliment to Lady DUFFERIN, comparing her good work to that of Zobeida Khanum, Queen Consort of the great Caliph of Bagdad and the *Arabian Nights*, RAROUN-AL-RASCHID, whose gift relieved the Mahomedan world from the scarcity of water in the Holy City of Arabia.

Maharajah NARENDRA KRISHNA insisted, in words uttered without his usual fluency, on moving a vote of thanks to Lady DUFFERIN for the establishment of the Association, which being seconded in a few appropriate words by Nawab ABDOL LUTEEF, the proceedings were brought to a close by the President making an energetic appeal for support worthy of the cause they had at heart. His Lordship said:—

"When I heard them simply talking of three more lakhs, of a maximum of five lakhs, as the utmost to which they dare aspire, I could not help thinking that it would have been more becoming the occasion, much more appropriate to the cause which they are so nobly advocating, and much more respectful to the constituencies to which they are authorized to appeal, that they should have talked of 50 lakhs. When we remember, on the one hand, what is the task that they have set themselves—the way in which they are bringing health and light and happiness into millions of Indian homes; and, on the other hand, as I myself have had an opportunity of observing, that from one end of India to the other, every community in the land is full of sympathy with this movement, then I feel that it only they have the courage of their opinions and make a sufficiently peremptory and earnest appeal to their friends and admirers, they will obtain an infinitely larger sum than that to which their ambition seems at present restricted. (Cheers.) No one knows better than myself the difficulty of obtaining money in India. It is one of those disagreeable problems which I have had to face under very disheartening circumstances, but let me tell the Lady President of the Fund that it will probably prove a far more graceful, as well as more successful method, to throw herself on the generosity of the Indian people, than, as I have been obliged to do, to resort to those mechanical means by which alone the Government coffers can be replenished. (Laughter and loud cheers.)"

Maharaja Sir JOSEPH BROMPHAN TAGORE moved the vote of thanks to the Chair. By way seconding this motion, the Hon'ble Mr. W. R. STEEL made a really fine speech in miniature.

Mr. STEEL'S words, for which we have no space today, were a fitting close to an altogether successful day's proceedings. To Major COOPER and Mr. R.

TURNBULL, the energetic Secretary of the Calcutta Corporation, the public are indebted for the arrangements for the meeting which left nothing to be desired.

### THE EXCHANGE DIFFICULTY. \*

The disease having culminated in a crisis, there are naturally many doctors to the fore. The present is a bold physician, though of the unprofessional sort.

The author has considered the subject under three headings, viz., "Diagnosis," "The Remedy," and "Application." Under the first, he states how the exchange difficulties of India arise from the fact of India having to pay her debts and liabilities in England in gold with a monometallic silver currency, which is becoming more and more depreciated every year under the steady fall in the value of silver. He does not think that the adoption either of a monometallic gold or of a bimetallic standard is practicable,—the one on account of its costliness, and the other for the impossibility of inducing a sufficient number of nations to a common ratio between the values of gold and silver. The Government of India, says the author, is a great loser on account of the depreciation of silver, while the Indian cultivator is no gainer, as the price in India has not risen. The real gainer, according to him, is the merchant; for while silver is steadily becoming depreciated, the price of wheat and other produce in countries having a gold currency does not fall, and at the same time, as the price of wheat and other produce in India with its silver currency does not rise, the merchant takes advantage of buying the produce in India for silver, and selling it in England for gold at their former price, and thus becomes a gainer to the full extent of the depreciation of silver. The author, therefore, tries to solve the question, Is it possible for the Government to recoup its losses by taking a share of the gains which export trade undoubtedly makes from the depreciation of the rupee?

This solution—the author's "the remedy"—is this. Ascertain the average price of wheat in the nearest market during a previous term of years and then allow the cultivators of India the option of paying land revenue in soft wheat (instead of money), at so many seers per rupee. The wheat, thus obtained can be sold in England, as there is an increasing demand for Indian wheat both in England and the continent of Europe. To realize 15 millions of pounds sterling, exclusive of the cost of carriage, it will be necessary to send a little over three millions of tons of wheat to England yearly. The author does not think there will be any difficulty in sending this quantity of wheat, although as yet the largest quantity of wheat exported in any one year has been 1,053,000 tons, which is the quantity exported last year (1885-6), as there is a plenty of good land available in the Punjab, the Central Provinces and elsewhere. Having disposed of the Government difficulty, the author is not unmindful of the claims of others, for he recommends full compensation to the merchants whose trade may be interfered with; and then he gently requests the Government to allow its officers, including Railway officials, to remit some fixed portion of their salaries and other allowances to England at par for the benefit of their families. (Mr. Sedgwick having undoubtedly the prior claim to such allowance?)

Lastly, under the heading of "Application," the author suggests various schemes of railway and irrigation works for the greater production and cheaper carriage of wheat.

The writer, who is a Royal Engineer, has considered the subject from an Engineering point of view. Except, generally sympathizing with his views on the subject of railway and irrigation works for the development of the country, we are unable to accept the remedy proposed by him for the solution of the Exchange difficulty. He has nowhere treated of the cause or causes of the fall of the rupee in value in relation to gold, and his statement of the silver currency becoming more and more depreciated under the steady fall in the value of silver, throws as much new light on the subject as to say that the sun's staying above the horizon is the cause of the day. We are more than ever convinced that no treatment of the subject will or can be satisfactory without a due recognition of the causes of the fall. Thus the rupee which was worth 2s. 2½d. in 1860-61, fell to 1s. 6½d. in 1885-86; and from our past experience, we, along with the author, can not help thinking that, the same circumstances continuing, the tendency is towards a further fall. The sum of £15,000,000 drawn by the Secretary of State represents 20 crores of rupees at 1s. 6d. a rupee, but will represent 22½ crores of rupees at 1s. 4d. a rupee; and as the rupee always buys the same quantity of wheat, the author's three millions of tons of wheat, will have to be increased to 3,375,000 tons and so on, at every further fall of silver. But this is not all. The total annual requirements by the Secretary of State for India amount to £17,000,000 at present (and not £15,000,000 as stated by the author). The Secretary's drafts have also a tendency to increase, as they have done from £6,641,576 in 1862-63 to £17,599,805 in 1883-84; and from all appearances, specially if the author's grand schemes of railway and irrigation works be adopted by the Government of India, which can

\*A Ready Remedy for India's Exchange Difficulties. By Major W. Sedgwick, R.E. W. Newman & Co., Calcutta.

only be carried out by heavy loans raised in England, there is every likelihood of the annual remittances increasing steadily every year. Will the author's plan of meeting the exchange difficulty by the transport and sale of wheat in England be then possible or sufficient?

The policy of large foreign loans incurred by the Government of India to promote railways and irrigation works, without a proper understanding on the subject of the exchange on the payment of interest and profit and repayment of capital, cannot too strongly be condemned. The late lamented economist, Mr. W. T. Thornton, whose valuable criticism of the theory of international values as propounded by J. S. Mill, was gratefully acknowledged by the latter, thus wrote in the *Westminster Review* (1880): "Experience, as usual deferring until too late her capacious counsels, at last teaches us clearly enough how serious an oversight there has been in an important branch of the domestic policy instituted by the Government of India some 25 years ago, and steadily pursued ever since. Every one could see that railways, which had so marvellously developed the resources of Europe, were equally desirable for India, but neither did it occur to any practical administrator to enquire, nor did any theoretical economist volunteer to point out, how greatly the investment of English capital on Indian Public Works must, by necessitating the remittance to England of annual interest or profit on the investment, derange the Indian Exchange, nor how grievous would be the effects of the derangement. Railways are good--irrigation is good--but neither one nor the other good enough to compensate for opening and continually widening a drain which has tapped India's very heart blood, and has dried up the mainsprings of her industrial energy. So grievous an error of the past having been at length, however tardily detected, will scarcely be persevered in;" &c.

One of the author's greatest mistakes, that runs throughout his pamphlet, is to suppose that the merchant who exports wheat from India gains by the low price of silver. On the same supposition, the importer of English goods into India, would be a heavy loser to the extent of the fall of the rupee in relation to gold. If the author had taken a little trouble to enquire among the merchants about the real state of affairs, he would have known that the price of wheat in London is no better than its rupee price at the seaport of India converted into sterling pounds at the current rate of exchange *plus* the cost of transmission; and so the price of English goods at the Indian seaports is no less than their English price at the English seaports *plus* the cost of transmission, the total being converted into Indian currency at the current rate of exchange. The actual price of the Indian wheat in London may slightly vary about its cost price, but the former always approximates towards the latter; and that is also the case with regard to the price of English goods at the Indian seaports. Competition alone is sufficient to bring down the rate of profit to the same level along the whole line of trade of India, both export and import. Even as it is, the Indian wheat has to undergo a strong competition in London with English, Russian and American wheat; and if it had been possible for the Indian export merchant to appropriate to himself the whole difference due to the fall of the rupee in relation to gold or anything like it, it would have been easy for him to monopolise the entire wheat trade of London to himself, simply by the giving up of a small portion of the profit that he would have derived by the fall of the rupee.

It is idle to contend that the price of wheat in England has not decreased steadily along with the steady increase in the import of Indian wheat in comparison with other wheat. The author has given the following figures shewing the imports of wheat into the United Kingdom:

	Russia Tons.	United States Tons.	British India Tons.
Year ended 31st December 1883...	664,667	303,291	562,174
Do Do 1884...	270,098	1,130,306	420,495
Do Do 1885...	599,317	1,213,935	605,098
Three months ended 31st March 1886...	60,005	176,461	162,110

The average price of wheat in England during the same period stood as follows (taken from the *Economist*):

	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.
Average price per quarter	41s. 7d.	37s. 8d.	33s. 3d.	30s.
Average rate of exchange per rupee.	1s. 5½d.	1s. 7¾d.	1s. 6¼d.	1s. 6d.

The above clearly shows that the price of wheat has fallen in England, even more than the rupee, (which is no doubt partly accounted for by the reduction in the cost of transport to England).

But even actual facts apart, a little consideration would have convinced the author that the greater import of Indian wheat could only take place under a falling price in England. In all countries, out of the total area under cultivation, there is a portion which may be called the border land of cultivation and which is barely sufficient to pay for the cost of cultivation and yielding little or no rent,--the rent for any other land being the difference between the total cost of production and the value of the total production of the soil. The importation, therefore, of any quantity of wheat into

any country must be accompanied by a decrease in the total area of cultivation, a diminution in the margin of profit of the cultivator under a new arrangement of the border land as it were, and a general reduction of the rent throughout the country. It is now a well ascertained fact that the total average under wheat cultivation has diminished as well as the rent has generally fallen throughout the United Kingdom,--a plain result of the lower price of wheat accompanied with an increased import of wheat from India.

The author practically recommends the India Government to engage itself in wheat trade in order to raise its annual revenue. A healthy system of trade requires the least interference from the Government of a country. The trade must be automatic or self-regulating, and no Government can determine beforehand how much of a particular commodity will be required abroad, and especially when there is a hard competition between several countries in the supply of the commodity required abroad; and consequently it will be impolitic for the Government of any civilized country to base its finances on the price to be realized by the sale of a commodity, the production and requirement of which fluctuate abroad so considerably as those of wheat. It will be idle to suppose that under the same conditions of transport, the India Government will be able to lay down wheat cheaper in London than the private merchants. We need only cite the result of the direct importation of stores by the Indian Government from England which has become a source of jobbery and of heavy loss to India. It reminds us of the story repeated by the President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce (Mr. W. D. Cruickshank) on the occasion of his delivering an address at the last annual general meeting of the Chamber: "A Committee of officers finding in a consignment of medical stores six small concave glasses, two inches in diameter, packed in a tin lined case, two feet square, the cost charges and freight on which come to 30s. while the glasses themselves could have been bought in the bazaar here for four annas each," and it illustrates pretty well the idea generally entertained as to the way in which the Government of India is served by the officials of the India office in the matter of the purchase of stores in England.

The author asks the Government of India to allow the cultivator the option of paying the land revenue in a fixed quantity of soft wheat. What will be the result? Whenever the price of the required amount of wheat falls below the amount of revenue (in rupees) payable to the Government at the market rate of the day, they will pay the Government in wheat; and whenever the price rises above, the revenue will be paid in money; and the total result will be loss to the Government. For the Government will have to transport and sell the wheat at the current price of England which can not rise higher than the Indian price *plus* the cost of transmission. If the payment of the revenue be made compulsory, it will cause a greater oppression to the people at times of scarcity, &c., than anything they have ever suffered from the worst Government during the last eight centuries.

Lastly, the magnitude in which the author advises the Government to export wheat from India, is well calculated to raise alarm in all persons who have the welfare of this country at heart. It is one thing for the United States (having only 14½ people per square mile), and Russia (having 4½ people per square mile in Europe), to export wheat in large quantities; but for India having about 200 people per square mile (including Native State), and where famines have become almost periodical, the case is a very different one. Already the soil (except in those parts which are annually inundated) is being exhausted from over cultivation; and can it be positively denied that the heavy export of food grains from the country does partly account for the recurring famines? No other country in the world, having a similar population or anything like it, exports one ton of food grain of the country; but why is the case so different with India except that she is *prided* by circumstances to send away her food grains while a portion of her population is always on the point of starvation? We shall conclude this review by making some extracts from the Report of the Indian Famine Commission appointed in 1878:--

"A main cause of the disastrous consequences of Indian famines, and one of the greatest difficulties in the way of providing relief in an effectual shape, is to be found in the fact that the great mass of the population directly depends on agriculture, and that there is no other industry from which any considerable part of the community derives its support. The failure of the usual gain thus deprives the laboring class, as whole, not only of the ordinary supplies of food obtainable at prices within their reach, but also of the sole employment by which they can earn the means of procuring it. The complete remedy for this condition of things will be found only in the development of industries other than agriculture and independent of the fluctuation of the seasons. With a population so dense as that of India these considerations are of the greatest weight, and they are rendered still more serious by the fact that the numbers who have no other employment than agriculture, are in large parts of the country greatly in excess of what is really required for the thorough cultivation of the land." "Again, "We have elsewhere expressed our opinion that at the root of much of the poverty of the people of India, and of the risks to which they are exposed in

seasons of scarcity lies the unfortunate circumstance that agriculture forms almost the sole occupation of the mass of the population and that no remedy for present evils can be complete which does not include the introduction of a diversity of occupations, through which the surplus population may be drawn from agricultural pursuits, and led to find the means of subsistence in manufactures or some such employments."

#### MR. CONYBEARE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Mr. Conybeare, M. P., was one of the speakers at the meeting held at Deptford on Tuesday evening for the presentation of an address to Mr. Lalmoohun Ghose, Lord Ripon in the chair. He said it was a great pleasure to him to be present on that occasion, for it was not the first time he had the honour to stand by the side of his friend Mr. Ghose on the same platform, and he hoped it would not be the last. Nay, he hoped ere long that Mr. Ghose might be fighting shoulder to shoulder with him in the House of Commons the battle of the Radical cause. He was there that evening to express his regret that Mr. Ghose had not yet succeeded in achieving his entrance into the House of British Representatives. He would also make so bold, after listening to the manly, generous, and eloquent speech of the noble chairman, to express his regret that he too was absent from the House of Commons. He wished his lordship was one of themselves in the freer atmosphere of the elective chamber. (Lord Ripon—So do I.) They wanted more of such men as Lord Ripon in the House of Commons, and he would gladly give up a dozen or two of the Tories and Dissident Liberals for one statesman of Lord Ripon's ability and thoroughly sound Liberalism. His activity and his talents were thrown away in the dead-alive assembly to which his fate, or rather his rank, consigned him. If all the hereditary legislators possessed the same mental calibre, the same magnanimous tone, and the same thorough Liberalism as Lord Ripon, they would not have to complain so much about the Upper House. If he needed an additional argument in favour of the abolition of the House of Lords—though he did not think he did—he found it in the speech of the chairman, to whom they had listened with so much pleasure. Why did they consider the presence of native Indians in the House so much to be desired? He was quite sure the presence in the House of a few gentlemen like his friend Mr. Ghose would exercise a most beneficial influence, not only in the debates, but also throughout the country. There was too much indifference in Parliament, and he feared in the country too, on Indian affairs. People did not realise that matters of vast importance, most closely affecting the welfare and interests of the native population, were constantly being discussed, without any one of the 240 or 250 millions of their fellow-subjects being able to utter a word in their own behalf; and when a few of them attempted—as he had done in the debate on the Burmese war last session—to bring directly before the House the

native opinion, as expressed in the native Press, they had to face the howls and execrations of all the party of privilege, vested interests, and monopolists, and yet every one of those whom he had the honor that evening to address ought to take a direct interest in India, for there were really few families in the country who had not connections at some time or another there in this or that capacity. But John Bull was a person of violent prejudices and insular tastes, and his ignorance of the history as well as of the public opinion and feeling in India was as great as in the case of Ireland. And yet it was essential to understand the history, as well as to respect the wishes, opinions, and aspirations of the native population, if we would really govern India with success, with benefit to the inhabitants, and with glory to ourselves. It was because the presence of men like Mr. Ghose would teach them so much in these respects, because by rubbing up again then they would get rid of so many of their prejudices, that he hailed with pleasure the advent of such representatives of India to the House of Commons. Another most important principle which it was essential they should keep in view was this, that the exclusion of native representatives from the House of Commons was a direct negation of the principle "No taxation without representation." That principle they were wont to regard as a corner-stone of their Constitution, and he need not remind them that it was on this principle more than any other that the Tories and their so-called Liberal Unionist back-stays pretended to object so strongly to Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule Bill. Yet what was the position in India? Last session they had to discuss and decide the question whether India should pay for the Burmese war, without a single Indian being able to say a word upon it. The Indians objected as strongly as they themselves to the mischievous filibustering policy of annexing Burmah, which, he believed, nobody in that country approved except Lord Randolph Churchill and Lord Salisbury, and yet they were fixed with the cost of it, without being able to protest against it by the voice of a single representative. As he had told them, he (the speaker) had, to the best of his poor ability, endeavoured to act the part of a spokesman for their Indian fellow citizens, and had incurred the wrath and denunciations of the Tory party for venturing to quote some of the native newspapers in the House. But he could not, of course, speak with the authority of men intimately acquainted with all the phases of Indian native opinion as Mr. Ghose could have done had he been there. Of this, at any rate, he was convinced, that if, in their policy, and in imposing heavy charges upon a population, whose average income was so small that he hardly ventured to refer to it, this country refused to listen to the voice of India, to her just complaints and her loud protests, especially to-day, when we are spreading the light of education through every class and district, the day would come when England would have terrible reason to rue that she ever had two such statesmen as Lord Salisbury and Lord Randolph Churchill. (Cheers.)

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ABDOOL LUTEEF,

Secretary.

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[The Author's "*Kavitahar*" was favorably noticed in *Mookenjee's Magazine*, the *Banga Darsan*, the *Ariya Darsan*, the *Friend of India*, the *Hindoo Patriot*, the *Bandhaba*, &c.]

"This is a collection of poems, written on a variety of subjects by a Hindu lady who has already made her mark in the literary world by her excellent poetical productions. She has had a wide range of subjects to choose her themes from, and a pleasant variety of metre (including the blank verse) to clothe them in.

"The poems generally indicate a delicacy of touch and tenderness of spirit reflecting the utmost credit on the fair writer. The effusions would meet with warm approbation, even if they came from the hands of a veteran writer of the sterner sex."—*Indian Mirror*.

THE BEE PRESS, No. 1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street, CALCUTTA.

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# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

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No. 259

## The Week.

THE natural effects of the introduction of the European element into the Nizam's Government are already disclosing themselves. From a paragraph in the *Hyderabad Record*, it would appear that the minister, and the newly appointed Secretary to His Highness the Nizam, Colonel MARSHALL, have their respective views as to who should be the channel of important correspondence which required to be submitted for the consideration and orders of His Highness.

The number of female medical students in the Grant Medical College, since the opening of the class, has been as follows:—In 1884, 13; in 1885, 17; and in 1886, 20. The Principal says that no serious difficulties have been experienced in teaching the women in the ordinary College classes, a fact creditable to both male and female. The necessity of a separate College for women, is, nevertheless, insisted upon.

A FRENCH steamer, *Graville*, bound for Madras, got aground on the Coral Reef near Annesley, on the 18th January, when she was boarded and looted by Arabs. The Arabs then left the vessel, but they were overheard having expressed the intention of returning later on and murdering all on board. The crew therefore abandoned the vessel, and took to their boats, and were picked up on the 19th January by the *City of Bombay* bound for Calcutta. These French seem to be of the mild Hindu type.

MR. JUSTICE CUNNINGHAM is about to take fifteen months' furlough.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab with Lady ARCHISON leaves Bombay for London early in April.

COLONEL H. P. HAWKES, M.S.C., Commissary-General, Madras, has been appointed Commissary-General of the Army in India.

THE Roman Catholic community of Calcutta have given a hearty reception to the Papal Delegate, who has arrived.

A SON of Maharajah DHULEEP SING has passed the examination for entry into Sandhurst.

NAWAB ASHANOO LAH has given a donation of Rs. 5,000 for improvement of the female ward of the Barisal Charitable Dispensary.

HIS Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad is expected in Calcutta in a few days. His Highness the Maharajah of Ulwar is also coming.

PROFESSOR OXENHAM, Principal of the Deccan College, deposed before the Public Service Commission in favor of simultaneous identical examinations for the Covenanted Service in England and India.

THE *Indu Prakash* says that the graduates of the Bombay University will soon receive the privilege of electing a proportion of the Fellows created annually.

THE blind student, CHAND SING, has passed the first verificate examination in law of the Panjab University. He intends to practise, and the Panjab Courts will now for the first time have a blind practitioner.

THE foundation-stone of the Agra Female Hospital was the other day laid by Lady LYALL, and the municipality has made a free gift of land valued at Rs. 8,000 for the building.

BELFAST was last week for two days together the scene of serious rioting. The mob stoned the police and even shots were exchanged. The police charged the rioters and fifty arrests were made.

SIR CHARLES BERNARD has approved of the proclamation submitted by the Buddhist Archbishop, and has added a clause offering free pardon to all rebels who come in before the Jubilee day.

MR. HALLIDAY officiates for Mr. COCKERELL as member of the Bengal Board of Revenue, Mr. BOXWELL, Magistrate of Gya, acting for Mr. HALLIDAY as Commissioner of Patna.

HIS Highness the Maharajah of Vizianagram, on behalf of his mother, has made a donation of £2,000 to the London Imperial Institute and of Rs. 10,000 to the Madras Victoria Technical Institute.

THE ABYSSINIANS have completely routed the Italian troops at Mas-sowa, inflicting heavy loss on them. The Italian Government meditate sending adequate reinforcements.

FOR the first time, a native gentleman, Surgeon-Major D. N. PARAKH, has been appointed to have charge of an important Hospital, like the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, Bombay.

THE Maharajah of Vizianagram is reported to be put down for the G. C. S. I. at the Jubilee. The Maharajah of Burbhunga is also to be a Knight.

THE Rajputana line, constructed on the metre gauge, is going to be either doubled on that gauge, or relaid on the broad gauge. For the waste involved in this, one man is responsible, viz., General SPRACHEY.

A PRIVATE telegram in the *Pioneer* announces that the Secretary of State has at last agreed to an arrangement for the prosecution of the Bengal Nagpore Railway.

THE Secretary of State has sanctioned Rs. 27,22,940, being the estimated cost of constructing an extension of the Sind-Pishin Railway, from Quetta to the Kotal at the top of the Bolan Pass.

THE Marchioness of Queensberry has brought an action against her husband for divorce. The *Pall Mall Gazette* says that the Marquis will not defend the suit.

THE Government of India have withheld their sanction to the proposal of the Board of Directors, East Indian Railway, for creating the appointment of an Assistant Controller of Stores, and thus prevented an expenditure of Rs. 9,000 a year.

PRIMARY education appears to be making fair progress in Bombay. Of the increase of 22,571 students over that of the previous year in all classes of schools, nearly nineteen thousand were in primary schools alone.

THE number of congratulatory telegrams and letters addressed to Mr. GLADSTONE, on the attainment of his 77th year, was 1,000 up to 30th December, and they were still arriving in large numbers, necessitating the appointment of a special staff at the Hawarden Post Office.

MR. DADABHAI NAVROJI was received at a *conversazione* at Lahore, where the representatives of the different political Associations assured him of their support and sympathy in what he was doing for their country in England.

MR. GOSCHEN has been invited by the Conservatives of St. George's, Hanover Square, to contest the borough in the Liberal Unionist interest, the Conservative candidate having expressed his intention of retiring for ill health.

RAO Bahadur JANARDHAN SONDER KIRTIKAR, B. A., L. L. B., for some years editor of the *Indu Prakash*, then Chief Justice of the State of Palitana, and latterly City Judge of Baroda, died of fever on the 16th instant.

AMONG rice exporting countries, the first place is due to Lower Burma, its export of this commodity in 1886 amounting to more than a million of tons. Bengal, with its export of three hundred thousand tons, takes the next place, but at a remote distance. Then come Saigon, Siam, Java and the Philippine Islands.

THE Sheriff of Madras will give a treat at his own expense to the inmates (about 3,000) of all the orphanages and charitable institutions in the Madras Municipality. Madras is lucky in the possession of so liberal a citizen as Mr. RAMASWAMY MOODLIAR, forward in all good works.

THE Finance Committee have recommended the creation of a new appointment in the Madras High Court, to be called Commissioner of Accounts, which may be given to one of the present officials of the Court. This arrangement will set free for judicial work one Judge of the Court whose time is now taken up with references to take accounts.

IN reply to felicitations addressed to him by the Bangalore community on his reported appointment as Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, Mr. J. B. LYALL said that he had not received any official intimation on the subject. In the meantime, we have the assurance of the *World* that Sir LEFEL GRIFFIN'S accession to that office is virtually certain.

MR. E. T. ATKINSON, President, delivered the annual address to the Bengal Asiatic Society, in which he gave a review of the progress of research in the year. The financial position of the Society is prosperous, the expenditure being met by the annual income, while a sum of Rs. 1,42,000 has been invested.

THE Sadhayan Brahma Samaj that *tertium quid* of organised modern Hindu Theism has presented an illuminated address to Baboo DEBENDRA NATH TAGORE, the venerable head of the Adi or original Brahma Samaj. From all the dissensions which have raged among the several sects and schisms of the faith ever since the secession of Baba KESHUB CHUNDER SEN from the Adi Brahma Samaj, the "old man eloquent" has kept himself aloof.

ON the authority of the *Englishman*, we learn that Sir CHARLES BERNARD has been obliged, in consequence of continued ill-health, to take a year's leave, and Mr. CROSTWALLE, Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, has been appointed as his permanent successor. Sir CHARLES BERNARD, on the expiration of his leave, going to Mysore. Does not the arrangement look like superseding Sir CHARLES BERNARD in Burma?

THE ceremony of opening the Ezra Hospital was performed by Her Excellency the Countess of Dufferin. At the conclusion of the ceremony, "Mrs. Ezra's little daughter, Miss Diana Ezra, stepped forward and presented Her Excellency with a small gold key. The key, a

piece of exquisite workmanship, was manufactured by Monsieur Bourcheron of the Palais Royale, Paris. The handle was surmounted by Her Excellency's coronet in ruby colored enamel surrounded with small diamonds and studded with pearls, bearing the monogram H. J. D. in rubies, emeralds, and diamonds. The key was contained in a small blue velvet case with Her Excellency's monogram worked in gold on it."

THE Deccan College of Science appears from its last year's report to be a great success. At the end of March 1886, there were 255 pupils, of whom nearly half were in the Civil Engineering Department, the rest being distributed in the Agriculture, Forest and Mechanical classes. The bulk of these students, viz., 137, were Brahmans, the remainder being classified as follows:—Other Hindus 61, Christians 33, Parsis 21, Jews 2 and Mahomedan 1. The Native Chiefs have been invited through the Political Agents to send pupils to the College.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Indian Daily News* says that Sir RIVERS THOMPSON has lately created a new clerk's post, fixing the salary at Rs. 250 a month, so as not to require the sanction of the Government of India, and intends to bestow the post upon a "Dowb" and an outsider. The post is created in the face of the strong opinion of the Finance Committee as to the present expensiveness of the Bengal Secretariat in comparison with other Provinces, and its proposed disposal also runs counter to the recommendation of the Salaries Commission that outsiders brought into an office should commence with the lowest pay.

THE *Englishman* says:—

"Railway enterprise in China is still a thing of the future. Syndicates of rich capitalists in Germany, France, and America have sent their representatives to Peking with offers of almost unlimited money on easy terms for railway construction. Eager seems to have been the competition to secure the favour of the Celestial Government, and brilliant expectations and plans have been formed of great trunk lines radiating from Peking to all parts of the Chinese Empire. But the Chinese Government is not to be moved from its placidity, and the total result of all this manoeuvring is an order given to a German firm for a narrow gauge mineral railway twenty-three miles in length from the Kaiping coal mine to the village of Lutai, apparently a depot for the supply of the mines. Moreover a toy railway on the Decauville system half a mile long has been laid down at Tientsin, and the Viceroy of the Province, the great Li-Hung-Chang, has taken a ride on the same, and expressed his pleasure at the experience. Further than this railway enterprise has not yet advanced in China."

THE following case of undue leniency usually shown by native magistrates towards European criminals, is going the round of the press. Mr. TOM GRAVES, of the Empress Mill, was convicted by Mr. FRAMJEE, Magistrate, Bombay Police Court, of assaulting, without provocation, two native policemen so severely as to necessitate the removal of one of them to hospital and detention there for about a month. After remarking that the nature of the offence compelled him to pass a sentence of imprisonment, the Magistrate sentenced the prisoner to only one day's imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 100. Judging from the report of the case as it stands, the *Pioneer* remarks—"The sentence seems inadequate. Even the native policeman represents the authority of the Crown, and it will hardly strengthen on his hands in dealing with Europeans to know that one day's imprisonment has been considered a sufficient punishment for so grave an offence."

A PARIS telegram to an English paper states that General BOULANGER has ordered two hundred thousand shells loaded with melinite—the new explosive said to be ten times more powerful than nitro-glycerine, and a hundred times more destructive than gun-powder. The correspondent adds:—

"At the present moment the melinite is attracting all the more attention, because it is announced that General Boulanger is to go to Bourges on the 14th instant to witness some very important experiments with it. Great preparations have been made for them. Three sorts of defensive works have been constructed there with the object of being destroyed by the shells charged with melinite. They are square and massive. Two are made of cement and pebble stones, and the third, which is more important, is of asphalt and flint. This latter measures twelve metres at the base, and three at the top. Its cost was thirty-seven thousand francs. The other two were constructed for forty-six thousand francs. The shells charged with melinite will, it is said, penetrate into these extremely strong defensive works, and, bursting inside them, will, in an incredibly short time, blow them to atoms. It is also announced that an explosive substance has been invented which gives out no smoke, and can be employed with ordinary firearms. It would be very useful for sharpshooters, whose whereabouts would not be betrayed by the little column of white smoke."



## Editorial Notes.

THE following is the Programme for the celebration of the Jubilee in Calcutta.

On Wednesday, the 16th February, special morning services in churches and places of public worship, and processions in various wards of the town singing hymns.

Entertainment of school children in the Lieutenant-Governor's Gardens and the Zoo.

A Military Parade on the Race Course at 3-30, in front of the Grand Stand, ending with a march, past in the presence of the Viceroy, for whom a throne will be placed in a Dais in front of the Grand Stand.

At 4-45, His Excellency will receive addresses of congratulation from local bodies and Associations, after which the Lieutenant-Governor will request the Viceroy to accept the addresses, and forward them to Her Majesty in a suitable casket which is being prepared by Messrs. Hamilton and Co.

The Viceroy will then address the delegates, after which the assembled bands will play "God save the Queen" in which all assembled are expected to join.

A place will be provided near the Grand Stand for the school children who will all take part in the National Anthem.

After a short interval for tea and refreshments, there will be fireworks from 6-30 to 7-45.

The Grand Stand has been enlarged so as to hold within the enclosure 3,000 seats. There will be admission to them for the delegates who present addresses and for all who subscribe at least Rs. 100 for the permanent memorial. For the rest, the seats will be allotted according to priority of application at Rs. 5 each seat. Besides, there will be an enclosure (E.) of the Grand Stand set apart for carriages, into which there will be admission on payment of Rs. 5 per carriage. The horses must of course be taken out and taken to a distance.

The rest of the maidan will be free to the public without charge, subject only to Police arrangements for preservation of order.

Towards the close of the fireworks, the neighbourhood of the Grand Stand will be lighted up by electric lights, so that the company may leave without confusion.

On Thursday the 17th February, there will be an assault of arms and sports on the maidan for soldiers, volunteers and sailors, after which there will be a dinner for all the sailors in the port at the Sailors' Home.

In the evening, the Town, Fort and Shipping will be illuminated.

At 9 the Viceroy will drive out to witness the illuminations.

His Excellency the Viceroy will be accompanied by many other carriages from Government House. The carriages of the citizens may follow in the rear.

The Viceroy leaves Government House by the North-west entrance and drives along the following streets:—

Esplanade West, Strand Road, Fairlie Place, West side of Dalhousie Square, South side of Dalhousie Square, Wellesley Place, Government Place, Old Court House Street, Dalhousie Square East, Lall Bazar, Chitpore Road, Beadon Street, Cornwallis Street, College Street, Wellington Street, Dhurumtollah Street, Chowringhee Road, to Park Street.

At the Park Street corner, the procession of carriages disperses, and His Excellency returns across the maidan to Government House.

During the Viceregal procession, the traffic in these streets in the opposite direction to that taken by it, will be stopped.

IN consequence of the military activity of the Continental Government and the threatening indications of approaching war, a panic prevailed in the Paris, Vienna, and Berlin Bourses. The French Rentes fell one and half per cent. in two days. A subsequent telegram reports recovery, but again there has been a fall.

THE greatest question of the day—at any rate the one which is most sorely exercising our rulers and our countrymen alike, is the service question. If the *Pioneer's* columns offered any gauge of ordinary Anglo-Indian official feeling on the subject, that feeling must be one of extreme uneasiness at the appointment of the Public Service Commission. The supply of educated men by the Indian Universities is far in excess of the requirements of the Public Service, particularly as those requirements are limited by the conditions now existing for recruiting that Service from Home.

It must follow therefore that there should exist in the country a large mass of what the *Pioneer* sneeringly calls "educated discontent." That is admittedly a political evil, and the question which has to be solved is, How is that evil to be met? So far as the Government is concerned, two methods are under its serious consideration. First, to give a practical turn to the education system; second, to throw open to the people administrative posts from which they have hitherto been excluded. Towards giving effect to the first method, schemes of technical education are being matured, or carried out, as in Bombay and Madras. A Public Service Commission is sitting and will soon report as to the second method. That both the methods are called for, and with wisdom and liberality in their application are fitted to minimise the evil to be remedied, is manifest. But in the one case there is the danger of overshooting the mark. Technical education threatens, as under Lord REAY'S new education policy, to injure the progress of that higher education which is the fountainhead of all our progress in civilization. The progress of the Public Service Commission's enquiry already shows signs of reviving the bitter feelings of race-hatred.

THE *Lahore Tribune* is justly severe on the Anglo-Indian press making capital of any evidence before the Public Service Commission which tends against native interests. While Mahomedan after Mahomedan deposes against the exclusiveness of the Civil Service system, they are passed over in silence, but any solitary exception to that rule is seized on with avidity, and the incident turned to account in a way that is simply provoking. A case of this kind is furnished by the evidence of a decrepit Nawab in the Punjab.

This gentleman, it is true, disapproved of those changes which are demanded no more by public opinion than by the altered circumstances of the times. But he belongs to the antediluvian school of politics. Innocent of English, his written evidence was read by proxy, and the President of the Commission would not allow him to be cross-examined, though his cross-examination was demanded. Evidence of this kind is hardly worth the paper on which it is recorded, and it is the height of imprudence to court exposure by forcing it into prominence.

The *Tribune* has other complaints against the Commission which one can hardly be blamed for taking on trust, seeing that they do not scruple to bully and brow-beat witnesses whose evidence happens to be unpalatable to them.

MR. George A. STACK, editor of the *Calcutta Review* and Professor of the Presidency College, has written an able letter in the *Englishman* denying the superiority of competition over nomination claimed for it in rather an uncompromising fashion by Mr. TUPP, and suggesting a combination of the two methods in selecting candidates for the Public Service. With all our appreciation of the rare impartiality and single-mindedness of purpose which Mr. TUPP has shown in this controversy, and our concurrence in the main with his views, we must say that his estimate of the merits of competition is rather an exaggerated one. As a test of men, it is sometimes wholly unreliable and fallacious, acting in effect as it does like machinery, with the element of close and careful personal examination at a minimum. With all its inherent defects, however, it is perhaps the only practical test to apply where selections have to be made on a large scale. Individual selection is, of course, the most unerring method, but it is unerring in proportion as it works slowly and with patient and comprehensive examination of facts and circumstances. The conditions of efficient personal scrutiny preclude its adoption for the practical purposes of a great Government which must employ officers by the hundred. Some more expeditious method is wanted, and hence the resort to competitive examination. It is well, however, to know its inherent weakness.

ANOTHER educational officer, Mr. EWBANK, joins in the discussion of the Public Service question and writes a long letter in the *Englishman*. We must confess, however, that we do not clearly catch the drift of his argument, except that he would exclude the native altogether from the Civil Service. The typical Civilian, says he, should be an Englishman. Mr. EWBANK scarcely gives his reasons for so singular an opinion, unless it be a reason, that any Englishman, as such, is good enough to be an administrator in India. Mr. EWBANK, however, soon lets the cat out of the bag. If a Civilian, says he, may be a Director of Public Instruction, there is no reason,



why an Inspector of Schools, or a District Superintendent of Police, of course being Englishmen by race, should not be District Magistrates. The Civil Service may be exclusive with regard to natives, but it must be open to all Englishmen serving in India. The pedagogue has, at any rate, proved one thing, namely, that he is sick of plying his professional rod, and longs for executive or judicial powers. The Director of Public Instruction should keep an eye on him.

THE unequivocal testimony borne now and in the past by the highest judicial authorities to the superiority of native judges in civil judicial work over European judges, had, one would have thought, placed that point above dispute. But there is no finality in Indian controversies, and thus we have the spectacle of Mr. LARYMORE, Superintendent of Jail, reopening the question in a most aggressive manner before the Public Service Commission. But the opinion of even a most successful prison disciplinarian must count for little when opposed to the deliberate convictions of authorities like Sir BARNES PEACOCK, Sir CHARLES SARGENT and Mr. Justice STRAIGHT. The *Englishman* has, of course, taken up the cudgels for Mr. LARYMORE. Some curious arguments, evidently from an outsider's pen, have lately found their way into our contemporary's columns, supporting Mr. LARYMORE's view that no native is fit to be a District Judge. One of these arguments is that a native judge will not be able to maintain discipline among the hordes of process-servers who carry out the decrees of the Civil Courts. All we can say is, the argument is on a level with the plane of a jail Superintendent's vision. One would think on such a question the comparative quality of the justice administered by the native and the European judge would form the chief point for discussion, but there is not a syllable on that point, of course for obvious reasons.

THE *Indian Daily News* has the following on the late *contretemps* at the Bombay Government House :—

"The lady and her husband were guilty of a double outrage—an un-called-for insult to the whole native community, and a most ungracious return for the hospitality extended to them by his Excellency the Governor. That the parting of an English lady with a native gentleman at the dinner table is something of an innovation constitutes no excuse for the conduct of the lady and her husband. It might and should have been taken for granted that a native gentleman selected for such an honour would be perfectly *au fait* in the usages of polite English society at the dinner-table—that the lady had no cause to dread having a partner who would eat peas with his knife, pick his teeth with his fork, or commit any other *gaucherie*. The incident forms an *expose* of the manners of 'high society' in India which is almost as amusing as it is humiliating. Lord Reay or whoever was responsible for the arrangement of the dinner, evidently made a mistake in imagining that 'Government House people' must necessarily be well-bred ladies and gentlemen. Lady Reay, we have not the smallest doubt, would not object in the slightest degree to being taken in to dinner by a native gentleman of equal rank. It is perhaps a pity that her ladyship does not seem to have set the example, after which such *bomgeois* behaviour as the European lady and her husband in the story were guilty of would have been impossible. The absence of an example, however, does not make their conduct the less inexcusable, or the less unfortunate. It has been maliciously said that the greatest opponents to the establishment of a friendly feeling between Europeans and natives, which would best be promoted by their being brought together in the amenities of social life, are the Anglo-Indian ladies. This Bombay incident certainly gives colour to the idea; but we should hope it is an exception which rather proves the opposite rule than supports the case of the ladies' detractors. At the same time, while regretting this instance of what we must designate gross ill-breeding, we must remind native gentlemen that their own social system is largely to blame. So long as their own females are jealously secluded, the feeling against admitting them to the full enjoyment of social amenities in European society must be expected to continue. Let them relieve their women from the thralldom to which the zenana system condemns them and bring them into society, and the most important step possible towards the *approchement* of the races from their side of the barrier will have been taken. No European gentleman would decline to take a native lady into dinner, and when English ladies see their husbands and brothers taking in native ladies, they will learn to put aside any objection to Native gentlemen as dinner-table companions. The Bombay incident is to be regretted; but if it leads to reasonable discussion, and to a better understanding of the principle involved on both sides, it will, perhaps, not be without a useful influence."

We are pleased with the spirit shown by our contemporary in noticing the incident. We are afraid, however, that he has yet to get over the old prejudice against our custom of female seclusion. Intimacy and the most cordial intercourse between native and native are cultivated under the same conditions as to the exclusion of their female members from all intercourse. If this is possible in the one case, what is there to prevent it in the other. No native gentleman would resent or take amiss this exclusion. We hope our European friends will yet come to see that our female seclusion or our inability to eat

and drink with them need be no bar to as free intercourse as we too often have amongst ourselves.

OUR review of the year was general and purposely confined, almost wholly, to politics and that of an imperial kind. Otherwise the state of public health would have been noticed, specially the great sickness at the Presidency. The year closed most gloomily for the people of town and suburbs. A cholera epidemic was making its dire progress in the two final months of the year. The Calcutta death bill shows the disease to have reached its highest virulence at the end of November last. There was then a distinct pause, a slight decrease in mortality. Afterwards the decline was rapid, as follows :—

Week ending 17th November 117	
" " 4th December 107	
" " 11th do. 94	
" " 18th do. 63	
" " 25th do. 31	

We are indebted to the courtesy of the Suburban Municipality for the following mortuary return :—

DEATHS FROM CHOLERA.			
Week ending 4th December 1886	...	...	103
11th ditto	...	...	102
18th ditto	...	...	80
25th ditto	...	...	66
1st January 1887	...	...	35
8th ditto	...	...	23
15th ditto	...	...	28
22nd ditto	...	...	36

It will thus be seen that the returns for towns and suburbs confirm each other. Having ourselves expressed doubts of the accuracy of those of our municipality, we feel bound in especial to notice the fact.

The statement of the Suburban Municipality adds a note, thus :—

"It is to be remarked that four Medical Officers for the treatment of Cholera cases were appointed during the first week of December, and that the decrease of fatal cases since that time at once proves the need that existed for their appointment, and the good work they have effected."

After all, we believe the weather was a more potent factor in the matter than medicine. The heat at the end of the rains was extraordinary this year, hence the epidemic. As soon as the temperature became seasonable, the disease abated, but with another change there are signs of a relapse.

WE do not know how they liked the Hon'ble Mr. SCOBLE's speech at the Kambuleatolla Boys' Reading Club, for it was unlike the sort of pleasant speeches usually made on such occasions. But pleasant or not, our young men require plain speaking for their good. Dr. HUNTER, who was prevented from presiding, would have delighted them by a copious shower of compliments and congratulations, and dealing soft sawdew to all concerned with the institution, but Mr. SCOBLE is evidently cast in a different mould, and he justly thought that having gone to a boys' meeting, it was worth his while that he should leave some tangible effects behind him. He gave some very useful practical advice to the members which they shall do well to lay to heart.

THE Howrah Small Cause Court not long ago applied for the High Court's opinion as to whether a defaulting subscriber to the funds raised for building the local Town Hall, which was complete, was liable for his subscription. The answer being in the affirmative, the Small Cause Court decreed the case before it. A similar case lately came before the same Judge in the Serampore Small Cause Court. A man was sued for Rs. 22-8, being the amount of his promised subscription towards a small project for the deepening of a canal, which he had withheld paying like so many others. The work being completed, the projector brought this action as a test case, which, on the strength of the subscription-book, has been decreed by the Judge.

THE succession to the Burdwan Raj is again in jeopardy. It is sad to think of the end to which this great House seems destined. After waiting a generation, the late Maharaja Dhiraj MAHATAP CHAND Bahadoor decided to adopt an heir and, after long selection, got a child to adopt. The next difficulty was to find a bride for the boy to continue the line. This too was overcome, after no end of trouble. Then the old Maharaja died in some measure of peace. With regal pomp the young Maharaja was installed. But the spoilt child soon killed himself, leaving his widow permission to adopt. Again the difficulty of an adoptible child was experienced. After much controversy, a son of the Dewan BANBEHARI KAPOOR was fixed upon, but the

poor child died. There was again a search for an eligible child for the young Maharani to adopt for an heir to the vast possessions. The young Dowager rejected all suggestions and at last proposed to adopt her brother's child. A great controversy ensued between her partizans and those of others in the Raj and the officers of Government. Bengali Society was scandalised at the idea of the adoption. Government supported the Maharani's selection, however, and the great Lady's wish seemed in a fair way of being crowned. But a higher Power had willed otherwise. The child of fond choice and of so many hopes is dead.

ABOUT two months back, as we informed our readers, Professor WOOD-MASON, of the Indian Museum, under orders of Government, visited the silk districts of Bengal, for the purpose of reporting on them with reference to the disease of his own discovery and to suggest a means of cure. Mr. WOOD-MASON, as a man of science, unused to the mysteries of officialism, did not draw much travelling, nor eat many dinners of the hospitable people in the country. He went through his work in a business-like way, and finishing his inquiry was able in a few weeks to submit his report. He used expedition the more that he suggested the application to PASTEUR, for one of his pupils to come and introduce the great French micrographer's treatment, and in the interest of the great silk industry despatch was necessary. It is a far cry from the Bengal Secretariat, through all the numberless officials and functionaries in India and England, to Mr. PASTEUR's Laboratory, and the sooner Sir RIVERS THOMPSON gives the word the better. Even now, while the Report is passing through the Great Circumlocution Office, the disease is spreading and the silkworms are dying by thousands.

THE Calcutta Corporation is passing through one of its periodical scandals. Pending inquiry into his department, the License Officer was drafted to another. The Baboo has since resigned. The scramble for the vacancy has already commenced, and the Conscript Fathers of the city are at a premium.

DOOMRAON has been *en fete* this week, in honor of the Lieutenant-Governor's visit. The Agricultural Exhibition itself, the inauguration of which was the ostensible occasion of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON's trip, was a sorry affair, though. But the Maharaja wanted to honor the august personage, to whom, on the eve of his laying down the reins of Government, no honor could come amiss. A local Show was, therefore, improvised, which there was no time to place on a divisional or district basis. Of course, a large number of White Brahmans and Brahmanis were feasted on the occasion.

MR. A. FORBES, Chairman of the Suburban Municipality, has called a meeting, which, as will be seen from the advertisement, takes place this afternoon, for determining measures for the celebration of the Jubilee in the Suburbs. Mr. SMITH, the Commissioner of the Division, will preside. There should be a strong muster. We are glad to hear that Prince JEHAN KUDR is exerting himself not only to make the Suburban celebration a success. He has made some pertinent suggestions which will doubtless receive every attention. The Prince has considerable social influence, among all classes of the community. We may here notice the stupid attempt being made to discredit him. He is the only representative of Oudh Royalty in public affairs, and the family could not well expect a better.

KUMAR BINAY KRISHNA of Shova Bazar has sent a contribution of Rs. 160 towards the Madras Park Fire Relief Fund, for which he has been gracefully thanked by the Sheriff of Madras. This is an example of wide-awake catholic charity which we wish were more common.

A telegram from Bombay, dated the 2nd, says:—

"A small Commission will sit to-morrow at Ahmedabad to inquire into a charge made against Mr. Wilson, late Collector of Kaira, and Political Agent of Cambay, by the Dewan of the State, Shamroo N. Laud.

It is alleged against Mr. Wilson, that as an inducement to present a favourable report on the administration of the Dewan, he made an insulting proposal to Shamroo regarding his daughter.

The affair has created a great sensation. The Nawab of Cambay is one of the witnesses for the Dewan."

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1887.

### A MANLY AND WISE WITNESS.

IT demands no ordinary effort of mind and heart for an English Civilian to plead for justice to the Indian candidate. The question of the Public Service is beset with great difficulties. On the one hand, there are practically vested interests to count with. Those interests are not merely vested interests, but their virtual monopoly by the dominant race has so far been attended with efficient administration of the country. On the other hand, the gift of education to the people of India by the same ruling race, in the meantime, bore its expected fruits. The people qualified themselves in increasing numbers for those duties which required a specially trained body of European officers to discharge. Their qualifications naturally stimulated their ambition and they claimed their reward in a fair share of the high and honorable offices which hitherto were filled by English Civilians. Their claims were not more based upon their own merits than upon the principles of equal justice and fairness which formed the foundations of British rule. Notwithstanding the abstract justice of the case for the Indian people, it must be remembered that, in the world of affairs, abstract considerations have not always the best chance of acceptance. It is therefore not to be wondered at, if Anglo-Indians, as a class, fail to realise the justice of the claims set up for the people of the country. Some are, no doubt, wilfully blind to the merits of the case, and wantonly and mischievously confuse the true issues. But it is not unlikely that much of the opposition should arise from honest conviction. Conviction of harm to the efficiency of the service, if not of danger to the stability of the British rule, from any large admixture of the native element. That honest conviction may be wrong in fact, but nonetheless is it entitled to respect. Yet, it cannot be forgotten that this sort of wrong-headedness is usually confined to men of an inferior intellectual and moral calibre. All the more creditable is it, therefore, to those few braver and superior men who, rising above the prejudices of race and cult, discern the absolute justice of a free and unrestricted admission of all meritorious subjects to the Service, irrespective of their race, religion or color. Among such men, the highest place is due to Mr. COTTERELL TUPP, Accountant-General, North-Western Provinces. He has laid the country under a deep obligation, by his manly and unbiassed evidence before the Public Service Commission. No native ever spoke out against the exclusiveness of the Covenanted Civil Service or urged the justice of throwing it open to Indian candidates more emphatically than this English Civilian of high standing in the Service. Indeed, such testimony constitutes the best proof of the inherent strength of the cause of the Indian people, as it likewise proves the inherent fairness of the witness. It is such instances of fairness in individual Englishmen that enhance one's estimation of the English character and justify the claim of the race to imperial dominion.

Mr. Tupp speaks unhesitatingly of the disadvantages at which the present system, for the recruitment of the Covenanted Civil Service, places the native candidates. They are at a disadvantage, as well from the low limit of age as from their being required to compete in England upon only one chance of

success. Mr. TUPP would, therefore, make the age limit as wide as possible from 17 to 23, and he would also have competitive examination in India; that native candidates might have a guarantee of success before finally going to England. If compelled to go there, without this preliminary assurance, he considered they were unduly weighted in that they had only one chance of success. But the successful native candidates must, in Mr. TUPP's view, pass their final examination in England. On this point, Mr. TUPP has strong opinions. "Natives who succeeded in India," said he, "should certainly be sent to England for training, and he would compel them to go there on the ground that no man was fit to govern, say, even an average Indian district containing Europeans, who had no knowledge of European customs and manners! Even if there were no Europeans in his district, he should go to England in order to widen his training generally and make him a good all-round man." After they pass the final test, he would make no distinction in the treatment of native Civilians in regard to pay, promotion, or furlough. On this point, he said: "In some respects the privileges of the Covenanted Service were necessarily high; they were too expensive for the country, but they were framed on the supposition that the men to whom they would apply had been appointed in England, and had had to come out here to fill specific posts in the Service. He would make no difference in pay, because all men selected would have to go to England, and submit to a training of three years before they would be entrusted with the lowest appointments. As long as it was necessary Europeans should hold appointments, it was necessary to maintain the present rate of pay, which should be the same in the case of natives who passed in the open competition for the Civil Service. Race distinction should have no influence so long as he passed the Examination." It is impossible to refrain from admiring the liberal view taken of this question of pay by this gentleman. Surely, any distinction in the pay could not fail to have a degrading effect on the *morale* of the incumbents who should suffer from it. They could not possibly command the same respect as their European brethren, and, although possessed of the same training, and successful in the same competition, they would to all intents and purposes be regarded as an inferior Service. We thoroughly agree with Mr. TUPP on this point, and although we have our objections to the compulsory residence of candidates in England, those objections are however considerably modified by the fact that the residence is made compulsory upon an almost assured chance of admission into the Service. The preliminary test being held in India, and the age limit being raised, all our complaint against the exclusiveness of the present arrangements, nearly, if not entirely, disappears. The thorough equality, however, for which he contends, is not attainable without simultaneous examinations under the same conditions in the two countries.

Mr. TUPP is a strong advocate of competition for selection to all offices, high or low. We have elsewhere stated our views on this point. Mr. TUPP would re-distribute the Services, making an Upper and a Lower Civil Service.

His scheme was intended to embrace all posts in the civil Judiciary not now held by the Covenanted Judiciary, Munsiffs, Subordinate Judges, &c.; and he would recruit for that service down to a certain grade, including in the Civil Service all posts at present held in the Uncovenanted Service, dividing that service into upper and lower grades, including in the former men such, for instance, as Subordinate Judges. At present Deputy Collectors occupied rather a subordinate position; but certainly the upper grades, drawing Rs. 800 a month, he would include

in the upper class service; and all those, roughly speaking, drawing Rs. 500 and upwards, subordinate appointments to those referred to, would be included in the lower service. For the upper service he would recruit only by examination in England, as also for the upper ranks of the Uncovenanted Service. He would recruit the lower service by open competition provincially from natives of India in the Statutory Service; open competition to be absolute. As to the question whether he would promote from the lower to the higher service, he did not like to say anything absolutely; but he would make such promotion exceptional and most unusual. He was not prepared to say that he would reserve some power to the Supreme Government in this respect, merely because they might have some case of extraordinary merit in a man who ought to be promoted to a higher position. In such cases it was doubtful whether posts could not be provided outside the Civil Service of the country for men of exceptional merit. In India there were always posts in Native States, and the Government had often asked to furnish exceptional men of merit for them, and this would afford one opening. At any rate, he would reserve the right to the Supreme Government, but would make such cases of promotion most unusual."

Mr. TUPP's views are in the main so impartial as to command the assent of every unprejudiced mind. It is undeniable that the best practicable means of obtaining efficient public servants, is competition. It is not free from objections, but, as a rough and ready system, it is recommended for the larger concerns of life. Nomination has been tried, but it is beset with temptations. There are exceptional circumstances, however, where it may be desirable that the Government should have the privilege of filling up some appointments by nomination, and this privilege Mr. TUPP is not inclined to take away, but he would vest it in the Government of India instead of the Local Governments, which might be more prone to abuse it. Appointments in the Native States would also afford a no small field for the exercise of nomination.

#### THE TIE IN THE FACULTY.

THE Faculty of Law of the Calcutta University held an important meeting on Wednesday. The business was the nomination of the Tagore Professor, or in official language the considering and reporting on the applications for the Tagore Law Professorship. Twenty-four members were present, the Hon'ble Baboo CHUNDER MADHUB GHOSE, the President, in the chair. The names of the applicants are as follows:—

Babu Lal Mohan Das, M.A., B.L., Vakil, High Court, Calcutta; Babu Asutosh Mukerjee, M.A., B.L., Premchand Roychand student for 1868 and Vakil, High Court, Calcutta; Babu Kedarnath Ray, M.A., B.L., Munsiff, Pubna, and Author of a work on the 'Rent Law of Bengal'; J. V. Woodman, Esq., Barrister-at-Law and Law Reporter; R. F. Rampini, Esq., M.A., C.S., Barrister-at-Law, District Judge and Joint Author of a work on the 'Bengal Tenancy Act'; Babu Ramesh-chunder Bose, B.A. B.L., Vakil, High Court; P. Peterson, Esq., M.A., D. Sc., Elphinstone Professor of Sanskrit and University Registrar, Bombay; Babu Golapchandra Sarkar, M.A., B.L., Vakil, High Court; Babu Jogindranath Bhattacharyya, M.A., D.L., Author of a work on 'Hindu Law'; Babu Amritlal De, B.A., B.L., W. Griffith, Esq., M.A., Barrister-at-Law, Author of several works on Law; Babu Bipin-chandra Rai, B.A., D.L., Munsiff, Rungpore; Ameer Ali, Esq., M.A., LL.B., Barrister-at-Law, &c.

The last-named gentleman's application was withdrawn before votes were taken. At the first ballot, votes were thus given—9 for Babu Lal Mohan Das, 7 for Professor Golap Chunder Sarkar, 5 for Babu Asutosh Mookerjee, and 3 for Babu Kedarnath Ray. The last name was then eliminated, and votes being taken for the remaining three candidates, the result was 9 votes for Babu Lal Mohan Das, 9 for Babu Golap Chunder Sarkar, and 6 for Babu Asutosh Mookerjee. Babu Asutosh Mookerjee's name being now eliminated, the 24 votes were equally divided, being 12 for Babu Lal Mohan Das, and 12 for Babu Golap Chunder Sarkar. Mr. Justice CHUNDER MADHUB GHOSE might have settled the question by giving his casting vote, but he showed great moderation in declining to exercise his privilege, and the matter was submitted for decision by the Senate.

Perhaps Mr. Justice GHOSE, who is understood to have voted for LAL MOHAN, shrank from the responsibility of making a Shaoa a Smarta—of pitchforking into the Professor's Chair an obscure vakil or pleader of the vintner tribe, without distinction either as practising lawyer or as publishing lawyer, even though hailing from the same Dacca country, against a Kayastha gentleman who has earned the honored title of Sastri for his Sanskrit scholarship, who holds a Law Professorship in the College of the illustrious Pandit ISWAR CHUNDRA

VIDYASAGAR (himself famous as a Sanskrit scholar, a Hindu lawyer, and a Hindu Law-reformer,) and who is the highest authority in Hindu law in the profession in the High Court. Every vote is the exercise of a duty, but the casting vote is an eminently sacred trust. It is one thing for a President to grant his vote to a fellow-professional, or even to interest himself warmly in behalf of an old *protege* hailing from the same country, but it is quite a different matter to secure him a victory by the casting vote. The very kindness of his feeling towards him must restrain a man of honor and delicacy. Else, it were an abuse of a privilege. For, there is no reason why one member, even though he be chairman or President, should have more than one vote. If, in some countries and in some corporations, an additional vote is reserved in the chair to tide over the difficulty of a tie, it is the habitually discreet exercise of the advantage that reconciles the world to it. We are glad that our distinguished countryman, who now presides over the Faculty of Law in the University, has shown such an example of forbearance in a situation of great temptation. Had he succumbed to that temptation, the result would have been an awkward one in all conscience—to pay Rs. 10,000 for a Shaon Gamaliel for the respectable youth of the country to set at his feet to learn law. It was a narrow miss, though.

The Shaons are good people in their own way, but it is too soon for them to be Smartas and deliver dicta in law *ex cathedra* in India. They should be content to have a representative, however inglorious, in this learned profession in the High Court and to be allowed to dub themselves Baboos and call themselves Das.

SINCE the beginning of the year, native "society" has been exercised by the subject of honors. Many good people look wistfully forward to the creations on every New Year's Day and every Birth-day of the Sovereign. Those on the opening day of this year were extremely few—only two men in all Bengal got an addition to their names, and those two were the Lieutenant-Governor's own, an English Meer Moonshee and a native moonshee of the Bengal Secretariat. It was afterwards explained that a grand shower of titles was reserved for celebration of the Queen's Jubilee. In that case, surely, the Lieutenant-Governor's immediate servants might wait a month and a half, while it would have been more graceful to give away the two titles on New Year's Day to outsiders. Still the disappointment was allayed, and interest was now centred in the 16th February. There was a great hunt for the good things. Patrons were besieged in a way that made innocent men give up visiting the great *Shahab* logues. At the same time, the newspaper offices are filled with recommendations. For the rest, speculation is general as to the lucky recipients. In sympathy with the prevailing curiosity, the papers have provided lists of names. We believe they are merest hearsay. Thus, we can say that the list of Nawabs is not correct; one at least of the gentlemen named has not yet been marked for the title. So far as we have been able to gather, the matter stands thus. The initiation has not as usual been left to the Local Governments. The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal was allowed to name a dozen names. He complained that the number was too small, whereupon he was allowed six more—in all, eighteen.

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

#### THE NATIONAL CONGRESS: *Inconsistency All Along.*

SIR,—What is meant by "National"? The Congress is said to be "National." But is it really so? They are very much mistaken indeed who think so. According to the best of the lexicographers, Mr. Webster, "National" means common to a whole people or race. Now the Congress is named "Indian National Congress." According to Webster then, the whole Indian people or race should have been represented therein. But was the whole Indian people *really* represented? Of course the native papers will say "yes;" but will that be a truth? I doubt any truthful man worth the name, without feeling the least compunction, will say so. However let us see. According to the *Hindu Patriot*, "from Peshawar to Chittagong and from the foot of the Himalayas to the south of Madras no part of the country was left unrepresented." Now it must be remembered by all readers of newspapers that both the National Mahomedan Association and the Mahomedan Literary Society declined to have anything to do with the Congress. And I need hardly say I think that these two bodies represent the whole Mahomedan population, at least on this side of India. After this will any one have the foolishness to say that the Mahomedan community *was* represented in it? There were a few of them there, no doubt; but they could

scarcely be said to be the really best men having influence upon the opinion of their countrymen,—in short, they may be said to have but very poor pretension to be the true representatives of their community. And this was also exactly the case with the Hindoos. As is known to all, except a few of the British Indian and some other obscure Associations, no Hindoo gentleman was present there. And they are not really representatives of their community, in any sense. A few of them are simply men of property and position; but property and position can not by any means make one to be a representative of his community. Can it? Therefore it will be seen that the Hindoos also were left unrepresented in the Congress. Now as has been stated above, "National" means common to a whole people or race, and the Congress being named "Indian National Congress," the whole Indian people or race should have been represented there. But was the whole Indian people represented? Certainly not. How is it then that the Congress is called "National?" Is it not then sheer inconsistency to say that it is "National?"

This is one inconsistency. Let us now see if there is any other. As I understand it, the object of the Congress is to ameliorate our *status* and condition. Now any one acquainted with Native character, knows it very well that they can not see the good of any of them. For instance, if any one of them becomes a little influential, they will have no other business than to pray and invoke his immediate downfall! Is it at all possible then for so low-minded men to aim at so high an object? I should say they are simply inconsistent who say so.

Now to conclude: it has been clearly proved that the Congress is not, in any sense of the term, "National." Its professed object has also been disproved. Let now the public take it for what it is worth.

Yours, &c.,

KISSORY NATHA MITRA.

Calcutta, 165-166, Manicktolla Street.

P. S.—I read in the papers that the subjects discussed at the meetings of the Congress were done in a most loyal and moderate tone. I regret I am constrained to say that it is quite a tissue of falsehood. Loyalty and moderation were things known to a very few of them there. With a few honorable exceptions, *viz.*, Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji and men of his stamp, almost all the speakers were very violent in their speeches. Some even went the length of using seditious language. Thus, in the course of a speech in Urdu, a Punjabee Brahman said:—"We are going to petition the Government; if it accedes to our wishes, well and good; but if it does not, I and my countrymen are prepared to lay down our lives!" What was it, Mr. Editor? Was it loyalty or sedition? The gentleman I am further informed when speaking in this strain was oft times asked by Mr. Naoroji to resume his seat; but he would not. Thus he replied:—"I won't take my seat now. I have many things more to say yet!" The accuracy of the statement may very well be questioned; but it comes from so reliable a source that not the slightest doubt can be attached as to its correctness. My informant is a gentleman who was himself present at the meetings of the Congress. I may give out his name; but for some obvious reasons I refrain. Many are at a loss to find out any reason for the privacy observed by the Congress. Can not this be one? But let that be what it may. We need not bother ourselves much about it. It is open to question whether any very great importance is attached to its work; and the revelation now made is but a confirmation of the doubt.

K. N. Mitra.

#### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 22nd January 1887.—Baboo Mohini Mohun Chuckerbutty, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4, Act VII (B.C.) of 1880, in that district.

The 27th January 1887.—Mr. W. H. D'Oyly, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Durbhunga, is allowed furlough for one year, under section 50, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 4th March 1887.

Mr. H. S. Beadon, Magistrate and Collector, Dinagepore, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Durbhunga, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. J. C. Price, or until further orders.

Mr. C. R. Marindin, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mymensingh, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Dinagepore, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. H. S. Beadon, or until further orders.

Mr. E. B. Harris, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is allowed furlough for one year, under section 50, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 20th March 1887, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Khagendra Nath Mitra, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Oolooberiah, Howrah, is vested with the powers of a Collector, under Act X of 1870, in that sub-division.

Mr. F. E. Pargiter, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hooghly, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VII (B.C.) of 1880, in that district.

The 28th January 1887.—Moulvie Syed Anwar Ahmed, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Durbhunga, is allowed leave for

two months, under rule 2, section 138 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Kumar Ramendra Krishna, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hooghly, is allowed leave for sixty-six days, under section 138, rule 2 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Suresh Chunder Dass, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pubna, on leave, is transferred to Hooghly, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Kumar Ramendra Krishna, or until further orders.

Mr. F. J. Monahan, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Cuttack, is appointed to have charge of the Jajpore sub-division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Gossain Dass Dutt, or until further orders.

Mr. R. Cornish, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Midnapore, is allowed furlough for nine months and ten days, under section 50, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 22nd April next.

The 31st January 1887.—The services of Baboo Upendra Chunder Mookerjee, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Revenue Department of this Government for employment as Settlement Officer for the Kessiali Estate in that district.

Mr. J. C. Price, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Tipperah, is allowed leave for one week, under section 72, and rule 4, section 160 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Baboo Girendra Nath Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hazaribagh, is allowed leave for two months, under sections 128 and 141, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 25th October last.

Baboo Annada Prasad Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector and Officiating Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Chittagong Division, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 31st instant, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Grish Chunder Chuckerbutty is appointed temporarily to act as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector and as Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Chittagong Division, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Annada Prasad Bose, or until further orders.

The 1st February 1887.—Baboo Nobin Krishna Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Mymensingh.

Baboo Suresh Chunder Chatterjee, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Beerbhoom.

Mr. F. E. Pargiter, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hooghly, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that district.

The following officers are appointed to be Magistrates and Collectors of the districts mentioned opposite their names :—

Mr. J. C. Price	...	...	Tipperah.
" H. S. Beadon	...	...	Durbhunga.
" E. V. Westmacott	...	...	Howrah.
" A. A. Wace	...	...	Bhagulpore.
" A. Weekes, on leave	...	...	Furzedpore.
" H. G. Cooke	...	...	Purneah.

Mr. W. Fiddian is appointed to be Magistrate and Collector of Dinagepore, but will continue to act as Magistrate and Collector of Beerbhoom until further orders.

Mr. W. H. Grimley is appointed to be Magistrate and Collector of the 24-Pergunnahs, but will continue to hold his present appointment of Income Tax Commissioner until further orders.

Mr. W. H. D'Ovly is appointed to be Magistrate and Collector of Sarun, but will continue to act as Magistrate and Collector of Durbhunga till relieved by Mr. H. S. Beadon.

The 27th January 1887.—Baboo Kartik Chandra Pal, Munsif of Gungajalghatti, in the district of Bankoora, on deputation as Officiating Munsif of Bishenpore in the same district, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a court up to the value of Rs. 50 within the local limits of Bishenpore, Munsif, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Shoshi Bhusun Chatterji, or until further orders.

Baboo Jogendra Nath Chakravarti, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Bankoora, to be ordinarily stationed at Gungajalghatti, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Kartik Chandra Pal, or until further orders.

The 31st January 1887.—Baboo Kisari Mohun Sikdar, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Noakhally, to be ordinarily stationed at Sudeep, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Srigopal Chatterjee, or until further orders.

This cancels the order of the 18th instant, appointing Baboo Bhuban Mohun Biswas to act as Munsif of Sudeep, in Noakhally.

Baboo Kisari Lal Sen, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Sarun, to be ordinarily stationed at Sewan, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Purno Chunder Mitter, or until further orders.

The 1st February 1887.—Baboo Suresh Chunder Chatterjee, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Beerbhoom, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Baboo Danda Dhari Biswas, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif, in the district of Bhagulpore, to be ordinarily stationed at Jamui, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Bemola Churn Mozoomdar, or until further orders.

Baboo Raj Krishna Banerjee, Second Munsif of Bhola, in the district of Backergunge, is vested temporarily with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes, for the trial of suits cognizable by such a court up to the value of Rs. 50 within the local limits of that Munsif, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Kedareswar Moitra, or until further orders.

Baboo Ambica Churn Mookerjee, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Backergunge, to be ordinarily stationed at Bhola, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Raj Krishna Banerjee, or until further orders.

Baboo Ramanugrah Narain Singh, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sarun, is vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Mr. P. N. Banerjee, Munsif of South Raojan, Chittagong, is appointed to act temporarily as an Additional Munsif in the district of Sarun, to be ordinarily stationed at Motihari.

Baboo Ram Lal Dutt, M. A., B. L., will continue to act as Munsif of South Raojan, in the district of Chittagong, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. P. N. Banerjee, or until further orders.

Mr. W. Maude, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Barh, Patna, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

### THE RECENT HISTORY OF BHOPAL.

The Sikandar Begum, who ruled during the Mutiny period, died in 1868, after a reign of 24 years. Much of the credit of her administration was due to her Minister, Jamal-uddin Khan, to whom she was secretly but formally married, and who survived her 14 years. Sikandar was succeeded by her daughter, Shah Jahan, whose own husband had died before she came to the seat of power, leaving her with an only daughter and heir, the present Princess Sultan Jahan. The latter lady was married in 1874, with the assent of the English Government, to Ahmad Ali Khan, but better known as Sultan Dulha, of the same tribe as the Bhopal family, and by him she has had two sons and a daughter. But, unfortunately, these were not all the members of the Begum's family, for the Begum Shah Jahan married a second time, in 1871, an adventurer who, it would not be going too far to say, was forced upon her, and who has been sole disturber of the long-maintained tranquillity of Bhopal.

This individual, named Muhammad Sadik Hassan Khan, was born of very poor parents and passed his early life as a religious student or Talib ul Ilm, travelling from mosque to mosque in the North-West Provinces, and earning a livelihood by selling *atr* to the faithful. This was before the Mutiny, and on the eve of that event he came to Bhopal, where he attracted the attention of the Minister Jamal-uddin, already mentioned. That dewan, although a fanatical Wahabi in religious matters, was firmly attached to the English; but the moulti Sadik Hassan from the first added political to religious animosity. Fortunate enough to gain the ear of the Minister, who gave him a small appointment, Sadik Hassan was not so happy in his relations with the Begum Sikandar, who noticed his seditious leanings and went so far as to banish him from her dominions. The Minister, however, looked after his interests and induced his semi-royal wife to allow the recall of his *protégé*, whom he at once married to his eldest daughter, a widow of middle age, with a family of her own. At the same time, Sadik's official pay was increased; but the inferiority of his position may be imagined from the fact that even then his salary was no more than £120 per annum. As long as Sikandar Begum lived he was rigidly excluded from any responsible position in the Administration; but on her death, in 1868, Sadik Hassan's opportunity arrived. His fortunes were resolutely pushed by the Minister Jamal-uddin and that official's daughter, and through their influence he was appointed private secretary to the new Begum, whose own husband had died some time before. Once having gained a footing inside the palace, he turned his opportunities to the best account. Rumours were soon circulated to the Begum's discredit, her reputation was compromised, and everyone believed that Sadik Hassan had been a too successful lover. These statements were more easily credited because the Begums were never famous for their domestic virtues, and they have been compared to Queen Joan of Naples and the Czarina Catherine. The Government of India and its political agents became mixed up in the question for the sake of maintaining public decorum, and at last, half by persuasion, half, perhaps, by force, the Begum Shah Jahan was married to this penniless adventurer, who had recently filled a very subordinate post in a State office. This event occurred in 1871. The marriage contract, drawn up in the same form as that between Jamal-uddin and Sikandar Begum,



contained one stipulation in favour of the wife by reserving to her alone the right of divorce. So long as Jamal-uddin lived Sadik Hassan, or the Nawab Consort, as he was officially called, was kept within some bounds of moderation; but on his death, immediately followed by that of his first wife, the Minister's daughter, in 1882, he pursued his course in a more open and unrestrained manner, and exercised his fascination or control over the Begum without the least regard for her sentiments or the interests of Bhopal. Under his malign influence Bhopal was sinking from a model State to a condition scandalous to native government, and injuriously affecting the reputation of the paramount Power for justice and vigilance in upholding the rights of oppressed peoples throughout India.

Under the control assumed by her husband, the Begum Shah Jahan was not always a passive subject; but, as he had induced her to retire behind the *pardab*, her influence was very much diminished, and her best supporters did not know how to counteract the operations of the Nawab Consort. Before he asserted his authority the Begums had been honourably distinguished by holding Durbar unveiled, but Shah Jahan was compelled, and it is said by brute force, on her marriage with this man to retire behind the curtain or *pardab*, and, indeed, it may be asserted that his tenure of power depended on her seclusion. The Begum, although imperfectly informed during this period of the mismanagement of the State, and of the lawless tyranny practised in it, could not but hear some rumours to the disadvantage of her husband, and the decline in the good name of Bhopal seems to have touched her very nearly, as she reproached him in the strongest terms and threatened to divorce him. However, she never carried out her threat, perhaps through dislike of the inevitable public scandal; and all the State papers and orders, while bearing her name, were really his production. If the Nawab Consort had devoted himself to the business of the position which he had reached, and shown a just appreciation of the responsibilities of power, it is improbable that any one would have considered it necessary to interfere with his personal exercise of ruling authority. But he only cared for power in order to abuse it, and by the instrumentality of one of his creatures, named Akbar Ali Khan, who was magistrate, chief of the police, and governor of the gaol at the same time, he was able to arrest, try (if trial were thought necessary) and punish any of his opponents in the most summary fashion. Extortion was more than revenge the chief motive in these proceedings, but the Nawab's method of dealing with those who did not submit to him may be best inferred from the name given to another of his satellites, Muhammad Hussain, of Mohtamin-i-Maut, which means Superintendent of the Death Department.

The misgovernment of the State, aggravated by serious miscarriages of justice, with painful consequences to innocent individuals, necessarily attracted the notice of the Political Agent at Bhopal, who remonstrated with the Begum's officials and reported the circumstances to the Governor-General's Agent in Central India. Sir Lepel Griffin at once made strong representations on the subject of Akbar Ali's tyranny, and required that official to be suspended and placed on his trial for one specific act of cruelty in keeping a prisoner so long confined in the stocks that he lost the use of his legs. This was the first step towards an improvement in the dispensation of justice; but its results could only prove temporary so long as the Nawab Consort remained in a position to nominate fresh creatures of his own. Akbar Ali was arrested in July, 1885, and in the following month Sir Lepel Griffin proceeded in person to Bhopal. An indication of what was coming was furnished by the notification that the Viceroy's representative did not require the presence of the Nawab Consort at the railway station on his arrival. At an interview with the Begum, at which several of her Ministers were present, Sir Lepel Griffin pointed out the disorders in the State and the imperative necessity of removing them, and he stated that as they were due to the Nawab Consort's proceedings there could be no remedy save his absolute removal from power. Some doubt must be felt as to what the practical result of these representations would have been had it only been a question of the Nawab's maladministration, but fortunately for a decisive issue the Nawab had not only misgoverned Bhopal, but he had shown himself a traitor to the English Government. In order to make this perfectly clear certain circumstances which preceded those already described must be explained before continuing the narrative of the Nawab's disgrace and removal from the administration.

The Nawab, in addition to his desire for wealth and dignity, had also the wish to figure as a literary celebrity. A bigoted Mahomedan of the Wahabi shade of thought, he was anxious to gain a reputation among his Indian co-religionists similar to that of Arabi Pasha in Egypt, and the easiest way to do this was to produce a treatise expounding the meaning of the doctrines of Islam with a great show of erudition and with a keen appreciation of current events. One of those waves of fanaticism which periodically recur to restore life to the seemingly decaying creed of Mahomed was at its height when, in an ill-judged moment, the Nawab published certain *Kutbas* in which he justified the *jihad*, and assumed an anti-Christian attitude. This publication came under the notice of the Indian Foreign Office in 1881, and the Nawab was formally cautioned for the indiscretion and disloyalty shown by publishing a work inciting

its readers to thoughts and acts of hostility to the English Government in India. The Nawab expressed his sorrow for an act which he attributed to his ignorance, and not to his disloyalty, promised never to offend again, and, with the Begum, thanked the Viceroy, Lord Ripon, for his leniency in dealing with him on this occasion. Sadik Hassan did not take this warning to heart as he would have done if he had been a more prudent man. Saved once from the consequences of a foolish act, he believed that his good fortune insured him immunity for the future. At all events, he repeated the offence. In another work, originally written in Arabic at an earlier period, but of which he published a Persian enlarged edition in 1883, entitled "*Hidayat-ul-Sail ila Adillat ul Masail*," and bearing his name on the title page, a number of seditious passages were found, and as this book was discovered on sale at Lahore the importance of the offence was greatly increased. The character of this work may be gathered from the following brief extracts. One point insisted upon was that it was incumbent on Mahomedans to rescue any city taken from them by the Kafirs, and that a Mussulman residing in it committed a great sin, and if he went so far as to like the Kafirs and their ways he was an apostate. This theory would render it impossible for any Mussulman to be a faithful subject of the Queen, especially when he went on to assert that "the blasphemy of the Feringis is the greatest of all," and, again, that "whoever praises the Kafirs is a heretic and guilty of a great sin." Another point that frequently presents itself in the administration of British India is the preference shown by Mahomedan claimants in the Courts to be tried by an Englishman, and on this subject the Nawab laid it down that "if such a person disapproves of the Shariat and considers the British laws right ones he is an apostate and is liable to be punished as such—viz., to be killed; but if he does not mean to insult the Mahomedan law he is liable to some other punishment."

The English Government in India is famous for its easy-going toleration of adverse criticism, but this direct exhortation by a ruling chief to a large section of the population to look upon defiance and disregard of our authority as the inherent right of those accepting the tenets of the Prophet could not be passed over as if it were the indiscretion of a journalist, or the ravings of a religious maniac. The importance of this work was undoubtedly increased by the fact that it was originally published in Arabic on the eve of the Prince of Wales's visit, and that it tended to excite the passions of the Mahomedans. Still, even it would have been condoned if the Nawab had abstained after the warning of 1881 from repeating the offence, but his literary activity increased rather than diminished. In 1882 he wrote a history of Bhopal, a work to be severely condemned as distorting the facts of his own time, and libelling the Begum's family and relatives and the English officials; but his "*Interpreter of Wahabism*," printed in 1884, was open to still more serious censure as reiterating in a different form the sinister allegations of the "*Hidayat*." In the following year he published at Agra, in his son's name, another seditious work entitled "*Iktirabussaa*," and described as distinctly hostile to the British Government. The main purpose of the book was to show that the time of the Mahdi was approaching, and that the leader in the Soudan might, despite the Hadis, be the true Mahdi. These treasonable productions justified the resolution to which the Indian Government came to press the charge home to the Nawab Consort, although the truth was that it thought more of benefitting Bhopal than of crushing an opponent.

When, therefore, Sir Lepel Griffin met the Begum and her husband in Durbar the matter which he first required to be explained was the continued treasonable literary productions of the latter. The first interview was taken up with the formulation of this express demand, and at a second, held on the following day, the Nawab was to produce all his works. The consciousness of guilt was betrayed in the absence of the two most incriminating works—the "*Hidayat*" and the "*History of Bhopal*." On this occasion the Governor-General's Agent declared that the whole of the facts would be placed before the Viceroy, who would himself decide what should be done to punish the Nawab for his treasonable acts. The immediate consequence of these interviews was that the Begum issued a *yaddasht* declaring that the Nawab had ceased to have a share in the administration, but this step would soon have possessed little value had the Viceroy refrained from visiting the Nawab's offence with some open mark of his displeasure and acquiesced in his remaining at Bhopal without stating the consequences of future interference in State affairs. Let it be stated for perfect clearness that under section 121 of the Indian Penal Code the Nawab was liable to the punishment of death or transportation, and that the smallest token the Government could give of its displeasure would be the withdrawal of his salute and honorary titles, and his peremptory exclusion from the administration.

The accuracy of this view was clearly shown by the reports of the Agent at Schore as to what happened a few days after the departure of Sir Lepel Griffin from Bhopal. He said that the *bona fides* of the Begum's *yaddasht* was questioned, and that everybody believed it to be meant as a blind and merely temporary. In short, it was clear that so long as the Nawab remained at Bhopal no supersession of his authority in name would prevent his asserting a predominant influence over the Begum's mind, but for practical reasons the Viceroy stopped

short of transporting the Nawab to Rangoon as was suggested. We have enumerated two of the reasons on which the Indian Government felt bound to proceed against the Nawab Consort, but perhaps a third reason, stronger than any other, might be found in his tyrannical action with regard to the Princess Sultan Jahan, the heir-apparent of the present Begum Shah Jahan. Sadik Hassan aspired to the preservation of power in his family as well as to the possession of authority for himself. He endeavoured to compel this Princess to marry his eldest son, and when he was baffled in this by her marriage with Sultan Dulha he spared no effort to alienate her mother's affections from her legal successor. In the course of a few years he formed a still more sinister design. Thwarted in one generation, he strove to succeed in the next by marrying his younger son to Bilkis, Princess Jahan's eldest daughter, and consequently the Begum's granddaughter and possible heir. At the same time he curtailed the allowances paid to this branch of the Bhopal family in order to increase the payments to his own connexions; but it would take too much space to mention all the injuries directly or indirectly inflicted on this lady, who may be expected in due course to succeed to the Throne of Bhopal, and whose character is portrayed in the most pleasing colours. But the character of the man may be best appreciated from the following account by a native official and co-religionist of one among his many enormities. It may be described as the case of the Mahajans:—

"Before a regular suit had been instituted and regular proceedings commenced against the Mahajans they were ordered by the Nawab to be arrested. These wealthy and respectable Mahajans were arrested by the Kotwal Akbar Ali and kept in the stocks, and after they had been subjected to unheard-of cruelties for some weeks or some months they were sent to the gaol. Their personal property, their banking-house, and their shops were put to auction, and the proceeds of the sale were made over to Mastu Hosain Khan. . . . I learnt to my dismay that those unfortunate Mahajans had been in the gaol for 22 months! The Kotwal did not know why and for what crime they had been incarcerated. . . . The Nawab ordered their release, and I had them immediately set free. As the houses of these men had been all sold, they put up in the house of some of their relations and began to drag on their miserable existence in utter poverty. But they had misery in store for them yet. A few days after their release Mastu Hosain ingratiated himself into the Nawab's favour, and again presented a petition to the same effect in respect of these men as his former petition had been, and again the order of arrest was issued by the Nawab. This time the Kotwal took care to confine those men, not in the gaol, but in the chauki near a temple known as the Kamali ki Mandil. Returning one day from the Taj-mahal, my carriage accidentally passed by that chauki, when I heard a man cry at the top of his voice for help. I stopped the carriage and ordered the man to be brought before me that was crying so loud. The man told me that he was the same unfortunate man who, having been released by me only a fortnight ago, was again arrested and had been kept in the stocks. His son had died of the torture and barbarous cruelties he had received, but the policeman said he had run away. When I ponder over the poverty of those two Mahajans brought on by the sale of all their property and the ornaments of their women, their imprisonment for 22 months with hard labour and gyves on their legs, their release after they had been subjected to all the miseries of torture and the cruel discipline of the prison, their almost immediate arrest afterwards, the death or escape for fear of death of one of them, the survivor having been kept in the stocks without food or drink for three days, I wonder why the vengeance of God does not fall upon the tyrants!"

It was at the end of August, 1885, that Sir Lepel Griffin formally denounced the disloyalty of the Nawab, and two months later the Viceroy, after communication with the Secretary of State, decided as to the course to be taken for punishing his misconduct. In the interval the Nawab had not merely recovered the practical exercise of authority as head of the State, but he was even unwise enough to declare, and perhaps so foolish as to believe, that the Viceroy would decline to act upon the representations of his Agent in Central India. These hopes were dispelled by the arrival of Sir Lepel Griffin at Bhopal on the 25th of October. The popular excitement was marked, and the cordiality of the public welcome accorded to the representative of the Government of India showed that the sympathies of the people were enlisted against the Nawab Consort. Nor was the suspense protracted. A Durbar was arranged at which not only the Nawab, who wished to be absent, was compelled to be present, but also the Sultan Dulha, husband of the Princess Sultan Jahan, who had been excluded from all previous official meetings. The chief Ministers and officials were also in attendance. The Viceroy's orders were then read, to the effect that Sadi Hassan should be deprived of his title of Nawab Walijah Amir-ul-Mulk, and of his salute of 17 guns, and that if he should attempt any future interference in the State, direct or indirect, it would entail the most serious consequences for him. At the same time the Begum was required to appoint a suitable and responsible Minister of whom the Viceroy should express his approval. At subsequent interviews of a private character the subject of restoring efficiency to the administration and purity to the dispensation of

justice was gone into in detail, and while the Begum was assured of the unchanged friendship for herself personally and her family of the British Government, she was advised that she held the real remedy in her hands—viz., to come out from behind the *purdah* and rule her subjects face to face, as her mother and grandmother had done, and as she herself did for the first 12 months of her reign. This advice was not followed at the time by the Begum. The disgrace of the Nawab, which only fell short of expectation in one particular—viz., in his being allowed to remain at Bhopal—was followed by the punishment of several of his worst creatures and the removal of all who had in any way compromised themselves from their posts.

But the Nawab's malign influence could not be excluded from the Begum's councils in a day, and the Begum herself seemed to feel bound to show him as much consideration and confidence in his misfortunes as she had done when he ruled in her name. So practised an intriguer as Sadik Hassan had no difficulty in making his opinions known and adopted, and it was only after an abortive visit to Calcutta to see the Viceroy that the Begum finally acquiesced in, with the intention of sincerely carrying out, the new arrangement of restoring the efficiency of the Bhopal administration by the appointment of a responsible Minister or Wazir. The Begum herself was in favour from the first of an English officer being appointed to this office, but as it was thought she meant thereby to signify that she was no longer a free agent her wish was not complied with, and an experienced native officer, Nawab Abdool Lutef, was nominated Minister. The Begum, however, would not be satisfied with this arrangement, and after some months her reiterated request to have an English officer as Wazir was granted, and Colonel Ward was appointed by Lord Dufferin to this delicate and responsible position. The administrative changes already carried out have gone far to render the ex-Nawab's secret influence nugatory. Justice and police have been separated and made independent branches of the Government. Wahabi officials, who were obstructive on narrow grounds of sectarian casuistry, have been removed, and Sunni Kazis, or magistrates in sympathy and agreement with the mass of the people, have been appointed in their place. The revenue of the State is now devoted to the discharge of its obligations and the proper payment of its servants. The landholders have the sense of security in the possession of their jaghirs which was conspicuously absent in the time of the Nawab Consort, and the gaol is open to the frequent inspection of the English Agent. Another arrangement, by which the old rule of preventing anyone leaving the city without permission has been abolished, shows how completely the former system of extortion and repression has been superseded. But perhaps the most important change of all is the reconciliation effected between the Begum and her daughter, the Princess Sultan Jahan, who will in due course be called upon to succeed her.

In this way has the downward course of what has been considered the model state of native India been arrested, and its administration restored in some degree to that height of efficiency from which an adventurer, whose only qualifications were a spurious religious reputation and a capacity for intrigue, had succeeded in debasing it. The difficulty of the task was immense, because a husband had to be punished and disgraced with the least possible reflection on the honour of the wife, and a single false step might have resulted in the miscarriage of the whole plan, and in converting public opinion from one of sympathy with the British Government to a belief in its overbearing an amiable and friendly Princess. The Nawab Consort has been fitly punished and rendered incapable of further mischief without incurring too severe a punishment for himself at the same time that the good name and authority of the Begum have been maintained intact. The action of Lord Dufferin's Government has even provided for the future stability of the Bhopal House by bringing out of her enforced retirement the legal heir to the Throne, the Princess Sultan Jahan, and by showing her future subjects that her rights are unquestionable and must be respected. The drama has been enacted without the outside world seeing more than a ripple on the surface, although to retain his power the Nawab Consort had recourse to every artifice that his ingenuity could devise or the lavish outlay of money could put in force. The complete success which has attended our compulsory intervention in the affairs of Bhopal has been entirely due to the tact and determination with which Sir Lepel Griffin met all Sadik Hassan's manœuvres and pressed home with irresistible persistence to a conviction all the damaging evidence which had fallen into our hands of that man's disloyal schemes and of his corrupt and arbitrary acts of authority. The reform of Bhopal thus effected by the present Agent in Central India is a not less remarkable and creditable achievement than his success in inducing the three principal States in his province to abolish the injurious transit dues; and furnishes an instance of judicious and salutary intervention in the affairs of a native State encouraging to those who felt doubts whether the Government of India had not begun to abandon its old prerogative of looking after and securing the welfare of those inhabitants of Hindostan who were not directly and in name its subjects. The blow dealt at a traitor in Bhopal has been effectual there, and it carries a moral for every Court and capital in India encouraging to the friends of the English Raj and full of warning to its enemies.—*The Times*.



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## The Week.

AN unpleasant incident occurred at the Moorgeehata Roman Catholic Church during the reception of the Papal Delegate. One of the festoons of hanging lamps caught fire, and the panic which ensued is said to almost baffle description. A rush was made for the doors and women fainted, benches were overturned and broken, and not a few lost their heads. Dr. GOETHALS, however, with great presence of mind, soon restored order by beseeching the congregation not to be frightened at a shadow. Thus a frightful calamity was prevented.

A DARING robbery is reported to have taken place in the neighbourhood of Balagar, in the Hooghly district. A servant maid recognised some of the dacoits, but she was so severely beaten that she died the next day. Property to the value of Rs. 2,000 has been taken away.

THERE has been an interview between the Sultan and Sir DRUMMOND WOLFF, and arrangements are in progress for carrying on negotiations with regard to Egypt.

THE French Premier, M. GOBLET, in the course of a speech in the Chamber, said that as the pacific sentiments of France were undoubtedly, it was useless for any Deputy to question the foreign policy of the Government. The panic on the Bourse was attributed to the work of speculators.

THE amendment of Mr. W. R. CREMER to the Address in reply to the speech from the throne, for the immediate evacuation of Egypt by the British troops, was rejected by an overwhelming majority. In the debate on the motion, Sir JAMES FERGUSSON, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, justified the occupation for its achievements in the past and its opportunities in the future. He said "much remained to be done, and it was impossible to withdraw entirely until the pledges we had given, and the responsibilities we had undertaken there are fulfilled." That has been the stereotyped reply of every past Government. And yet what candid man who understands affairs will deny the truth of Sir JAMES' remark?

LORD SALISBURY'S continued ill-health is an additional source of anxiety to Ministerialists. Should there be a dissolution and the country be involved in the turmoil of another election, the contingency would scarcely be a pleasant prospect for the nation. Indeed, it appears that the prospect of the disturbance all round that would ensue from another election coming so soon in the wake of the late one, is dreaded by all alike, and that affords one security of a longer tenure to the Conservative Government.

RAI BAHADOOR SETH GOPAL DAS, the well-known banker of the Central Provinces, has subscribed Rs. 10,000 to the Jubilee Fund. The London Institute will have the largest share in it, we suppose.

THE Kattywar Chiefs intend to raise a lac of rupees for a Museum by way of commemorating the Jubilee, and to subscribe an additional sum of Rs. 60,000 to be invested in Government paper for defraying the ordinary expenses.

AMONG other ways for commemorating the Jubilee in her State, the Begum of Bhopal has decided on further extending the water works at a cost of two lacs of rupees.

SURGEON-MAJOR K. P. GUPTA, Deputy Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal, has been writing elaborate letters in the papers suggesting that the most beneficial way to celebrate the Jubilee would be to make an organised attempt for the improvement of the water-supply in the country. On the subject of the proposed technical schools, his observations have great practical value. He says :—

"Now, then, what will the middle class men thoroughly trained in arts and manufactures do when the rich upper classes and millionaires lock up or actually bury their capital? That this is no exaggeration, but simple and naked truth, will become evident from the following hard facts: Since the foundation of the Bengal agricultural scholarships by Sir A. Eden, we have had a number of young Bengalis trained in scientific agriculture in Cirencester College, who have duly returned with M. R. A. C. and other cognate degrees, ready for employment and eager to introduce improved methods of agriculture. Now, I ask, how many rajahs, zemindars, and rich capitalists have availed of their services? Not one I believe. Some of the scholars have given up their profession in disgust for want of employment and encouragement, and taken to teaching and journalism. I am aware the officers of the Bengal Agricultural Department are doing good work, but Government will not go in for arts and manufactures. I don't wish to throw cold water on the noble scheme of technical education about to be inaugurated in Bombay and Bengal under the kind auspices of Government, but simply draw attention to the real facts of the case. Let technical schools and colleges be founded in Calcutta and elsewhere by all means, but unless the rich upper classes and millionaires can be coaxed and persuaded to lay out money in the improvement of arts and manufactures, it will not advance the country one whit. The millionaires and capitalists will not, perhaps, open their purse strings or rather their hoards and vaults till actually compelled by legislation, as some of our over-zealous social reformers seek the aid of legislation for the abolition of infant marriages! The two assumptions are on a par and are equally preposterous, because the chance of Government interfering in either case is absolutely nil."

AT a Jubilee meeting held at Dacca, our well-known literateur Babu KALIPRASANNA GHOSH made an eloquent speech, and his master, the Zemindar of Bhowal signed a munificent subscription of Rs. 20,000.

AT Rangoon, they have voted half a lac of Rupees from the municipal fund, notwithstanding strenuous opposition from Mr. EGERTON ALLEN.

THE new Vice-Chancellor of the Panjab University in succession to Mr. ELSMIE, C.S., is Mr. W. H. RATTIGAN, Barrister-at-law, owner of the *Civil and Military Gazette*.

RAI SALIGRAM SING Bahadoor, Post-Master-General of the North-Western Provinces, having retired on pension, the vacancy has been filled up by the appointment of Mr. K. J. BADSHAH, C. S. In making this arrangement, the Government has been guided by the principle that the appointment should continue to be held by a native of India. There is, in consequence, much outcry, in the Anglo-Indian press which the native press or at least a portion of it, in its want of true political instinct, seems ready enough to echo.

THE appointment of Colonel ELLES as Adjutant-General of the Army has been approved by the Secretary of State.

MR. J. W. NEILL, C. S., Commissioner of the Jubbulpore Division, temporarily officiates as Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, during the absence of Mr. CROSTHWAITE'S *pro tem* successor, Mr. FITZPATRICK, who has joined the Public Service Commission. Mr. A. MACKENZIE, Home Secretary, is marked for the permanent incumbency.

ARCHDEACON ATLAY, after a service of twenty-one years, left this country on Sunday.

DEATH is announced of Mr. PETER RYLANDS, M. P., the Liberal Unionist. He was distinguished for his sturdy advocacy of economy in expenditure.

THE Maharajah of Cooch Behar has taken passage to England. He will be accompanied by the Maharani. Two of the late KESHUB CHUNDER SEN'S sons accompany her.

FURTHER Socialist Demonstrations are reported from London and Germany.

THE Italian Ministry have resigned in consequence of their unpopularity from the Massowah catastrophe.

GENERAL BOULANGER'S demand of eighty-six millions of francs has been granted by the Chamber of Deputies.

SIR FREDERICK ROBERTS arrived in Calcutta on Wednesday afternoon.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL has started for Algiers owing to ill-health.

THE Government of India will contribute from Imperial revenues Rs. 55,000 for the construction of the Murree-Kohala road, the Panjab Government giving Rs. 80,000.

THE Steamer *Agra* went ashore near Bimlipatam, but fortunately here was no loss of lives.

AT the banquet given by the Kattywar Chiefs to the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Mr. MUNCHERJEE M. BHAUNUGREE, the Bombay Agent of the Bhowanagar Darbar, in proposing the health of their Royal guests, said that their career in India was one unbroken tale of friendly feeling and personal regard, by which they were soldering fast the cordial relations subsisting between England and India.

AS it were by way of shewing its contempt of the popular feeling on the subject of the "exodus," the Government of India offices break up in Calcutta earlier this year than usual. They will be closed in Calcutta on Saturday the 19th March. And if they are similarly late in returning from Simla by a like period, about a month will have been added to the absence of the Government from the capital.

EVEN the Pope has been affected by the war mania. His Holiness has sent a despatch recommending the German Catholics in the Reichstag to support the Army Bill but without producing any impression on the Ultramontane party.

MR. PARNELL made a moderate speech in the debate on the Address, in which he denied that any disorder existed in those parts of Ireland where rents had been suitably reduced, and added that autonomy and not repression was the remedy for the crisis.

THE total capital required for the Bengal Nagpore Railway, including cost of the existing narrow-gauge section, is 650 lacs, but only a portion of this sum will have to be raised by Government at once.

THE Hooghly Bridge will be opened on the 21st instant. The original idea was to hold the ceremony in March, but it is now thought that the union of the two railways will be a fine Jubilee episode, and the work is being vigorously pushed forward. The Viceroy will cross the bridge in the first train.

THE Russian Government intends to cut through the isthmus of Perekop by a canal. The canal will establish a direct route between the river Don, the Black Sea, and the Sea of Azof, while three lines of railway will be brought into junction with it.

A CORRESPONDENT signing himself "An Old Servant of the Company" writes in the *Englishman* as follows:—

"I think it will be acknowledged by all that India cannot afford to go on increasing its expenditure, and we must see if it is not possible to reduce our expenses, both civil and military. In the days of the East India Company there was no such difficulty felt, and we might, therefore, safely take a lesson from them, so also might we do from their servants. They never thought it necessary to overwhelm the country with competitionwallahs, with hydrocephalic heads and knock kneed limbs; but sent out strong healthy English lads to become masters of men and not spouters of disloyalty who would collapse at the first sign of danger to themselves. Such lads made no pretence of loving their Aryan brethren, while hating the country and doing their utmost to run home at every opportunity. The old servants of the Company came out knowing that the whole of their lives would probably be spent out here, and that they were here for the purpose of being masters over a race which can be ruled only by physical force; they liked the country, were kind to the natives, and did not get mammy sick every three years. But now what do we see? Go into any house, club, or any place of resort, and almost every person will be found conversing as to when leave will be due to A, when B is going home, or when C is going to retire.

Such men spend their savings in England and do no good to the country, and the sooner India gets rid of them the better it will be. Their pay, according to their own account, is never sufficient, the loss by exchange is a grievance, their leave is insufficient, and they have to serve much too long, while a single summer in the plains injures their constitutions.

Now what we want for India is men on smaller pay, on less furlough and sick leave, and this can only be obtained by sending out young lads before they are old enough to appreciate the delights of English society or the pleasures of Paris. They will then soon accustom themselves to the disagreeables of Indian life, find their pay sufficient, and take an interest in and a liking to the country. I think we may safely compare Indian life to that of the sailor, and no one dreams of making a sailor out of a landsman of 20 years of age. To love the life with all its discomforts it is necessary to commence as a lad, and thus we find that the sailor loves his life and thinks nothing of the hardships he endures, and so the young lad sent out here will soon forget his English comforts and take kindly to our Indian discomforts.

As in the Civil Departments, so also in the Military Departments. The same drawbacks are found, caused solely by the circumstance of the ages of the officers being far beyond that which would reconcile them to an Indian career, and to remedy this we must revert again to an army recruited solely for India.

I am afraid that I shall be taking up more space than you can spare, and so I will close my remarks by mentioning briefly what changes seemed to me to be necessary if we are to confine ourselves within our income and do any good to the country.

All distinction between Covenanted and Uncovenanted Services to be abolished, and pay of former reduced.

2. A local British army to be raised.
3. Civil and Military Colleges to be established in India.
4. The civil and military services to be recruited by nominees appointed one-half by the Secretary of State and the other by the Viceroy in India.
5. Nominees to pass an entrance examination, but not a competitive one.
6. All nominees to be below the ages of 16 and 18.
7. All nominees to join the Colleges of India.
8. The classes in the Colleges to be so constituted that all appointments in the Public Service shall be filled solely from them, whether superior or inferior.
9. Appointments to be made with reference to a fixed standard of examination and not by competition.
10. The nomination of natives to the Colleges not to exceed ten per cent."

THE Park Fire enquiry has resulted in the verdict, that the catastrophe was due to pure accident. The Fair Committee, however, are condemned for their neglect to make sufficient arrangements for preventing the fire or for extinguishing it.

A MADRAS telegram says that the subscriptions in that city towards the Queen's Jubilee amounted up to the end of last week to Rs. 70,000. After pointing out that the results in Bombay and Calcutta are nothing in comparison, the *Indian Daily News* comes to the conclusion that "benighted" Madras, though certainly the least wealthy city, takes the lead, because unlike Bombay and Calcutta no grant has been voted by the Municipality, and voluntary effort has thus been left untrammelled.

AT a meeting of the leading Indian merchants of Calcutta held on the 2nd instant, it was resolved that, with a view to foster the growth of trade and protect their common interests, they should organise an Association to be called the "National Chamber of Commerce, Ben-

THE Tipperah fraud case has at last been concluded. The jury not being unanimous, the verdict of the majority was accepted, which was as follows :—

"Guilty against Kallyprosonno Dass, Lalla *alias* Hydaet Ali, and Romanath Mundle, on the charge of cheating by 6 to 3; unanimous verdict of not guilty against Hurro Narain Dass, Bhugwan Dass, and Dabee Lall on the charge of cheating, and guilty of abetment of the offence by 6 to 3.

His Lordship said that he could not take the verdict of the majority against Bhugwan Dass and Dabee Lall, on the charge of abetment, with which he did not agree, and they would have to retire.

There being two previous convictions against Hydaet Ali, his Lordship sentenced him to 7 years' rigorous imprisonment, Kallyprosonno Dass to 3 years', Hurro Narain to 3 months', and Romanath Mundle to 2 years' rigorous imprisonment each. The other two prisoners were directed to be kept in jail pending a re-trial."

Next day BHUGWAN DAS and DABEE LALL were discharged, without subjecting them to another trial. The Judge said that if he had been on the jury he would have given in a verdict of acquittal in favor of them, there being no evidence to connect them with the fraud.

VERY satisfactory improvement in the health of the jail population of Bengal appears to have taken place in the past year, the number of deaths being only 511 against 826 in 1885, while the average numbers of prisoners in the two years remained about the same. The improvement was most marked in the Alipore Jail where the mortality, with a larger jail population, fell from 109 to 44, and in the Hazaribagh District and Central Jail and the Rajshahye District and Central Jail, where the decrease was respectively from 102 and 126 to 14 and 57. There was indeed a slight decrease in the jail population of these two places, but that decrease was too small to be taken into account.

FROM a return lately published in the *Mark Lane Express*, giving the relative number of persons engaged in industrial and agricultural pursuits in some of the most important countries in the world, it is seen that Scotland stands at the head of the list as regards industries with 548 out of every 1,000 of her population so employed, while only 188 are employed in agriculture. For England and Wales, the numbers are 545 in industries and 140 in agriculture; for Switzerland, 419 and 459; for Germany, 363 and 467; for France, 319 and 463; for the United States, 244 and 473; for Italy, 228 and 626; and for Austria, 622 and 598. It will thus be seen that Italy has by far the largest proportion of her population employed in agriculture.

IT is simply discreditable to the European Bar of Bombay that they have declined to accept SHAMRAO'S brief in the Cambay Scandal case. He is now represented by Messrs. TAYABJI and PHEROZSHAW MEHA. Mr. WILSON is defended by Mr. INVERIARTY whose cross-examination of the complainant seems to have been aimed at making out that the charge was brought by the Dewan to intimidate Mr. WILSON in the prosecution of his enquiry into the Dewan's administration or by way of neutralising the effects of any unfavorable report which he might make.

THE *Statesman* condemns with its usual manliness the approaching competitive examination in London for the Indian Forest Service. Without being sufficiently attractive to English youth, this service is practically closed against the natives of this country. Our contemporary says :—

"Under this shameless Cooper's Hill fraud the boys' friends are induced to spend £250 a year, for seven or eight years, upon his education, to procure for him the chance of spending his life in the jungles of India, upon a salary of £180 a year rising to £700. An English boy who has been under good tuition from 9 to 15 years of age, is well fitted to become an apprentice in any profession or business whatever, while if his friends have £2,000 at their command, to give him 'a start in life,' they can place him with the greatest ease, in circumstances in which he may secure a junior partnership in the firm that has educated him, at the very same age at which the victimized candidate for a life in the jungles, is offered the magnificent salary of £170 a year. Cooper's Hill is a fraud upon both nations, while it is kept up at indefinite cost to the people of this country, who have already been made to pay well on to half-a-million sterling, for its foundation. It is necessary to speak plainly upon this subject. There is no reason whatever, why the Government should not have a large forest school in India itself, for training native youth for the exclusive filling of these jungle appointments. It may be, and no doubt is, desirable to have two or three highly-qualified men of European training, at the head of every provincial branch of the service, but that exhausts absolutely the need for European officers. And in a very few years' time, even that need will disappear, India herself producing a school of Forest officers, second to none in the world. The simple truth is that in the midst of endless

protestations of our desire to rule the country wisely, every branch of the public service, upon one pretence or other, is made a preserve for Englishmen. Native youth, including the Eurasian community, are practically excluded, because their friends cannot possibly face the costly regulations, which require them to pass these ordeals in England. What person of common sense fails to see, that however real may have been the necessity for European guidance in the establishment of the Forest service, the need has now gone, and that it is in India itself that we should now recruit the service, without a thought of resorting to England for the purpose. The service has ceased to offer a career to English youth, and it is only to impose upon the mother-country, to keep up the pretence of such a career for its sons. The schools of this city alone—such schools as the City College, the Doveton, St. Xavier's, the Missionary schools, and others—are turning out every year boys in large numbers, for whom all appointments in the Forest, Opium, Police, Land Settlement, Post Office, Telegraph, Railway, and Account departments, should be reserved."

GENERAL HANCOCK succeeds Colonel TREVOR as Public Works Secretary of the Government of India, Colonel PEMBERTON becoming Director General of Railways.

THE rumours set afloat by a Calcutta contemporary regarding visits to Calcutta in the Jubilee season by the Nizam and other native rulers, are without foundation.

MR. A. P. MACDONNELL will be confirmed as Home Secretary on Mr. MACKENZIE'S promotion to the Central Provinces. On the retirement of Mr. Justice OLDFIELD, father of the Civil Service, SYED MAHMOOD is expected to succeed to the vacancy in the High Court.

MR. E. T. ATKINSON, Accountant-General, Bengal, will probably act as Controller-General, during Mr. GAY'S leave, Mr. R. LOGAN filling the vacancy thus caused.

THE Budget is likely to come out by about the 25th proximo.

THERE will be no changes, it is said, in the rates of the Income Tax during the next year.

SYED LOOTF ALI KHAN, C. I. E., has given Rs. 5,000 to the Countess of Dufferin's Fund.

MR. GOSCHEN has at last been elected for St. George's, Hanover Square, by an overwhelming majority. Mr. HAYSMAN, Radical candidate, only polled 1,545 votes against Mr. GOSCHEN'S 5,702.

WE extract a passage from Sir CHARLES FITCHISON'S speech at the Lahore Jubilee meeting :—

"What England purchased for herself by centuries of political struggle—what she attained by slow and patient growth—she has given all with ungrudging hand. She has placed India in all that regards security of life and person and property, equality before the law, personal freedom, liberty of conscience, and liberty of speech, in a position far ahead of many of the oldest Governments in Europe."

A CORRESPONDENT of a contemporary says that there is growing on the Reeks Tea Estate a banyan tree the branches of which cover seven and a quarter acres.

AS if not to be behind the nether world in celebrating the Jubilee, the sky has sent forth a new comet, which is expected to become very brilliant during the year with a tail of two degrees long. It has been christened the Jubilee Comet.

THE *Pioneer* says :—

"A Calcutta contemporary, learning from a high source at Home, that there will be a second distribution of honours in India on June 20th, says that 'a stimulus to the donations of money on behalf of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund and other Jubilee memorials will thus probably be supplied by the knowledge that the good deeds will not come too late for recognition;'"

Whereupon the Allahabad paper adds :—

"We all know that the offerings to the Countess of Dufferin's Fund and other Jubilee memorials are to be purely spontaneous, and that the Queen's honours are never sold. Did we not know this, we might think that our Calcutta contemporary was inviting wealthy natives generally to invest their money boldly, because the market for honours will be open until June 20th."

BABQOS PRASANNA KUMAR MITTER, SURJYA KUMAR CHAUDHURI, and Mr. W. J. KNIGHT have passed the Clerkship Examination in the higher division.

## Editorial Notes.

THE notorious Wolf has gone to the shores of the Bosphorus and is prowling about the Sick Man. By the last accounts, he has had a sight of the latter. We wonder how the dying fellow looked at his unwelcome visitor, whose mouth doubtless watered as he beheld the shrivelled up anatomy. Negotiations will now be opened. His Wolfship has no objection, we believe, to spare the skeleton provided he get a limb or so to devour just now. The birds and beasts of prey of the Continent have of course their eye on the great carcase. But for mutual jealousy, they would have hastened the day and even completed the doom.

WE consider it a mistake on the part of those responsible for the Jubilee arrangements in Calcutta, that the Viceregal route on the night of the 17th instant takes in the native quarter of the Town at a late hour. This quarter will be illuminated with oil lamps, and according to our custom, the lighting will commence at dusk, so that by the time the Viceregal cortege passes, ten to one the lights will go out. It is not possible to induce people to put off lighting till a late hour. They have not the patience to wait on such occasions. It would therefore have been well if the Viceregal procession had been so ordered as to pass the native quarter first and the gas-lit parts of the town afterwards.

THE word seems to have been passed for the gradual withdrawal of Government connection with higher education. The Government of Bombay has already transferred the Deccan and Ahmedabad Colleges to private management. In Béngal, the same fate has befallen the Midnapore and Berhampore Colleges, and threatens to overtake others at no distant date. The Governor-General in Council, in approving the action of the Bengal Government in regard to the Midnapore and Berhampore Colleges, has expressed his trust that at no far distant period, and without detriment to the true interests of higher literary education, the same policy may be carried out still further.

THE girls of the Calcutta Bethune School had their red-letter day this week when the Countess of Dufferin came and handed them their annual prizes. The ceremony was an interesting one, and a respectable gathering of ladies and gentlemen, European and native, witnessed the proceedings. The musical performances of the students, in their gay dresses and with their graceful deportment, particularly enlivened the scene. The centre of attraction was a grand-daughter of Babu DEBENDRA NATH TAGORE, Miss SARALA GHOSAL, daughter of Mr. JANAKI GHOSAL. From the report which was read by Mr. M. GHOSH, it appears that the pupils number 128, of whom sixteen were above the age of fourteen, and seven above ten and below fourteen. Two ladies have again graduated in Arts, and, for the first time, a native lady, Miss KAMINI SEN, has taken honors in Sanskrit. Not the least interesting feature of the institution is the fact that it is under the superintendence of a native lady, herself an ex-student of the institution, Miss CHANDRA MUKHI BOSE, who has filled the post of Lady Superintendent in succession to European ladies, to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. The Chief Justice, Sir COMER PETHERAM, made an appropriate speech at the conclusion of the proceedings, in which he laid great stress on the progress of liberal ideas amongst the native community which the success of the school testified.

The arrangements were bad. The profane vulgar were forced to descend from their vehicles and take an unswept route to the hall, along, but apart from, the reserved path for gods and friends. The Committee-wallahs were loitering at the head of the stairs outside the main entrance to the hall, but, with the exception of the Hon'ble ANAND MOHAN BOSE, no body seemed to care how the invited were to get their seats or whether they were to get them at all. The Secretary of course never notices any body under a Chief Justice. It was some comfort to ordinary humanity to see the Paises reduced to the pass-of-non-Protestant *Padres* and pedagogues and Baboos who have not seen the world, changing places from pillar to post, and uneasy everywhere from fear of being turned out. The place was decorated of course—in the barbaric Western fashion, with not only living plants and shrubs in the interior of the house but also red and blue flags against the white inner walls, disposed like pieces of cloth in front of a

native dyer's workshop. Everything, however, was made up by the pretty little brunettes in rich brocaded or richly parti-colored garments. They sang and played decently well too, but the music was rather *outré* in the connection. "Silvery Waves" and "I built a Bridge of Fancies" are an absurdity on the banks of—the municipal tank in Cornwallis Square. It is something far worse. To train Srimatis GHOSAL and GHOSE to sing and execute on the piano European songs, is to raise rare hot-house roses at the public expense, as well as to sow the seeds of denationalization deep.

FROM personal knowledge of the state of water-supply in the country, we are in a position to heartily second Major GUPTA's suggestion which we have noticed elsewhere. The older generation of Indian gentlemen understood the value of a supply of good drinking water, and built the tanks which were the more common shapes in which their pious benevolence used to show itself, and, as a consequence, we find the country abounding in remains of large and splendid tanks almost everywhere.

But they are remains only. Those tanks are either dry, or silted up and choked, their condition being a source of more harm than good. The work of reclaiming them is one of great expense, and a great obstacle is the fact of these tanks being often the joint property of partners, some of whom may be too ill off to contribute their quota to the expenditure required. The religious and benevolent sentiments which led the earlier generations to excavate tanks for public benefit, have also lost their ascendancy. The present generation of our countrymen have to spend money in a number of ways which had no existence in the good old days. The consequence of all this is that these old tanks are suffered to grow worse and worse and to scatter their poisonous influences around. Excepting the riparian parts, the general state of the country in regard to water-supply is a wretched one. The law invests Municipal Commissioners and members of Sanitary Boards with power to deal with the subject, but it is as much a question of money as of law. The existing law also is more honored in the breach than the observance. The local authorities are not affluent enough to undertake the work of reclamation themselves, nor are they strong enough to use their legal powers to compel private proprietors to do it. The legal procedure is also not very clear or at any rate not generally well-understood. The evil, however, has grown to a height which imperatively demands early attention. Much improvement has of late been done in this direction in Calcutta by obliterating foetid tanks. Similar measures should be attempted in the country, but here, in the absence of an organized water-supply like that of Calcutta, systematic excavation of new tanks should go hand in hand with the work of obliteration. Dr. GUPTA has done his duty in drawing attention to the matter, and the Jubilee Funds might well be taken advantage of for doing something systematic in supplying a crying want. But what with the inchoate proposals for technical education, and other demands upon the Jubilee Funds for ephemeral or ostentatious objects of no real beneficence to the people, there is little hope that this will be done. But an organized effort to cope with the evil can no longer be delayed with safety to the population. We are deliberately of opinion that it is a matter in which the Government should intervene. It should either define the existing law, or proceed to fresh legislation on the subject. The Sanitary Department or the local authorities, should be made to feel sure of their ground. If any legislation were necessary, Dr. SIRCAR's appointment to the Council would prove very opportune.

IN this connection, we may mention as a good example to the wealthy of the country, that Nawab AHSANULLA of Dacca has resolved to devote the nuzzaks recently received from his rayyets, in digging tanks and in other works of public utility, adding to those sums large donations from himself. About Rs. 25,000 will be spent in this manner in the several *mohals* of his estate.

MR. ARCOT DHANCUTTY MOCELLIAR, one of the Madras Delegates to the National Congress, hearing on his return of the Park Fire catastrophe, forwarded to the Government a sum of Rs. 1,000.

RAJA SURJAKANT ACHARJEA CHOWDRY of Muktagacha has made a donation of Rs. 50,000 for a memorial at once of the virtues of his late wife and of his loyalty to his Sovereign.

**RAJAH Sir SOURINDRO MOHUN TAGORE, Kt.**, has hit upon a most characteristic manner of celebrating the Jubilee—appropriate enough to the occasion and in keeping with his character as a Doctor of Music. He will distribute *gratis* ten thousand copies of his own adaptation of the National Anthem with the portrait of Her Majesty.

We reproduce the following appreciative notice from the *Planters' Gazette* :—

"Since that straight and honourable Bengalee sportsman, Kumar Indra Chandra Singh, left off racing, we have not had the pleasure of welcoming many native gentlemen of good birth and position in Lower India to the turf, but one notable addition during the past year is that of Baboo Jogendranath Mullick, who, although not owner of a large string, has commanded public respect from the consistent and straight manner he has always run his good horse Sir Greville, over whom a fortune could have been made by merely backing him for a place. We are glad to see the Calcutta Turf Club have elected our sporting friend an honorary member of their body, and heartily congratulate him on the deservedly high compliment thus accorded him. Mr. Mullick's colours will be well represented next year, as he has asked Mr. Arthur Wilson, of Yarraberb, Melbourne, to select him a couple of maiden horses at the coming Melbourne March sales, and such a good judge is certain to purchase nothing that is not real jam."

Babu JOGENDRA NATH is representative of the well-known Calcutta house of the Mullicks and is now, we believe, about the only native gentleman here who lives in style. We only wish he will live to enjoy his advantages for a long, long time.

THE India Club will give a steamer party in celebration of the Jubilee. They will go as far as the Hooghly Bridge—not the Rialto of our Venice, connecting the Metropolis with the Surrey side, for that would be no greater adventure than a journey from the blue bed to the brown, but the new Bridge at Hooghly and return by 5 O'clock, in time for the fireworks.

We congratulate Babu RADHIKAPRASANNA MOOKERJEE, on the flattering testimony to his merits contained in the Government Resolution on last year's education report.

We learn that the death of the late Government Translator will not be allowed to pass away without any demonstration at all. Where so many memorials are raised to nobodies or nobodies-in-particular, it were a poor compliment to the understanding of Bengal and, above all, to the sincerity of the numerous friends of the deceased, if no public recognition of some sort were attempted of the modest but solid worth of Babu RAJKISEN MOOKERJEE. Accordingly, a requisition signed by Babu BANKIM CHUNDER CHATTERJEE, CHUNDER NATH BOSE, and GOVIND LAL DUTT, is in circulation inviting a public meeting at the Savitri Library, 18, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Calcutta, to-morrow, Sunday, the 13th instant, at 4 O'clock, to express the sense of loss of the community. We hope to see a large gathering of literary men and of men interested in the literature and progress of Bengal.

In forwarding to the Government of Bengal a letter from his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and a telegram from the Secretary of State, inviting subscriptions in India for the Imperial Institute in London, proposed to be erected as a permanent memorial of the Queen's Jubilee, the Government of India writes :—

"In forwarding for the information of his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor a copy of a telegram from the Secretary of State, I am directed by his Excellency the Governor-General in Council to request that, as it is advisable that the Imperial Institute to be founded in London in commemoration of her Majesty's Jubilee should not be excluded from the attention of the Indian communities which are now rapidly maturing their plans for the celebration of that event, the wishes of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales may be communicated in anticipation of the Secretary of State's despatch, both to all Committees formed for the purposes of the Jubilee, and to the Chambers of Commerce, the Municipal and Local Boards, and other influential bodies. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council observes that the Imperial Institute, inasmuch as it is designed to increase the demand for Indian produce and manufactures by bringing them to the notice of

consumers, and thus to call into requisition improved processes and methods of supply, is not disconnected with the promotion of industrial education in India, and may suitably find a place beside the local means of technical instruction among the permanent objects to which the larger communities are proposing to devote their subscribed funds. I am to request, therefore, that you will move his Honor to adopt early measures to make known to all classes of the community the wishes of his Royal Highness and the objects of the Institution as explained in the report of the Committee, and to take into consideration the formation of local Committees with a view to further action for giving them effect."

This call reminds one of carrying coals to Newcastle. England, with her overflowing riches, should rather give poor India out of her abundance than take. That natural course has, however, been reversed in too many cases. Has not India paid for England's wars, and her peaceful Missions, and her palaces and her colleges? Be that as it may, the appeal comes rather late. The field is not only occupied but the Local and Central Funds have already commenced to be drawn upon for purposes of the celebration which is at hand. Not a few subscriptions have also been made for specific local and provincial objects, and the more munificent ones are in this category. We fear an endeavour will be made to divert them partially to this new channel, and the consent of the subscribers themselves may, for aught we know, be obtained. The awkwardness of the situation, however, remains. The Central Committee at Calcutta have, therefore, taken what is perhaps the only course open to them in issuing a rider to their original appeal for subscriptions, asking subscribers to mention if they wish any part or the whole of their subscriptions to go to the London Institute.

THE proceedings of the Rungpore meeting for concerting measures for the celebration of the Jubilee, seem to be typical of our district meetings. Official influence was apparently exerted to get the funds raised at the district headquarters, to be spent for the improvement of Rajshahye, the headquarters of the division, but a vigorous protest was made against the proposal by Babu MAHIMA RANJAN ROY, Rai Bahadur, of Kakina, who said that as there were so many Rajas and big Zemindars in the Rajshahye district, the Rungpore subscriptions should be chiefly spent for the benefit of Rungpore. Babu MAHIMA RANJAN gave expression to the general sentiment as to the expenditure of these Jubilee Funds, but what small chance there is of that sentiment being conformed to, will appear from what the district Magistrate, Mr. NEWBERRY, mentioned after the close of the meeting, viz., of his having received appeals for subscriptions for the London Institute, Lady Dufferin's Fund, and some Orphanages in the N. W. P. This quiet announcement, though it does not appear to have attracted the attention of the meeting, was a strange sequel to the sturdy Zemindar's protest against the claims of Rajshahye.

MEETINGS are being held in all parts and at all towns and municipalities, and by all public bodies, to devise the best means for celebrating the Queen's Jubilee. They all have the same unvarying character from end to end of the land. All are marked by loyalty, which has a tendency to effusiveness. There is also a good deal of sameness in the treatment of the question, if not also in the forms of celebration determined upon. Following in the wake of the Viceroy, the people are invited to testify their loyalty and to jubilate on the appointed day by illuminating their houses. An address to Her Majesty is voted, as also fireworks for the evening of the day of Jubilee. Technical education being in fashion, the promoters of loyalty in Calcutta and other places have set their hearts on a technical college, by way of a permanent memorial of the event. Other towns have other pressing needs which they would supply by this opportunity. To raise funds for those purposes, a subscription is opened. Many municipalities have offered grants. So far so good or tolerable, but it would have been better had it been kept free from officialism. The evil, however, was begun at the Headquarters in the capital, and now at every provincial centre or country capital, the officers of Government are too much mixed up with the movement. Everywhere almost, the chair is taken by a stipendiary magistrate usually belonging to the Civil Service.



AT Mozufferpore, notwithstanding that the meeting was held on a Sunday (the 30th January) Mr. H. HOLMWOOD, the Joint-Magistrate, attended, and not only took the chair but moved the 1st Resolution, to wit—

"That the completion of the first half century of Her Majesty's memorable, beneficent, and glorious reign be celebrated in this town by all classes and sections of the community in a manner worthy of the occasion."

It was carried as a matter of course. But what does it mean? The completion of the half century of Her Majesty's reign is to be celebrated, but is the half century completed? The Queen having ascended the throne in June 1837, there are yet about five months wanting to make fifty years. This completion of time by anticipation, however foolish, is rather a common absurdity in the present occasion. Yet an official of the standing of a Joint-Magistrate might be expected to steer clear of it. Mr. HOLMWOOD ought to have known, and have apprised the Mozufferporeites that we are passing through the Fiftieth Year of the Reign, that at one time it was proposed to have the celebration on the completion of the forty-ninth year, but finally the middle of this February, past the first half of the fiftieth twelvemonth of the Victorian era, the Jubilee for India was fixed. The day for England is different, the 20th June having been appointed, when the Fiftieth Year will be completed. By the terms of their First Resolution, it would seem that the people of Mozufferpore would postpone their *fetes* to the end of June next, and were preparing betimes for a proper demonstration on that date. But is Mozufferpore so wedded to logic and fond of form as to go behind the Viceroy and depart from the Indian consensus?

SIR RIVERS THOMPSON has given an agreeable surprise to his detractors by his two last appointments to the Bengal Council. While every body was looking out for the elevation of some Lahoree Mull or Baidyanathjee Manna, or some such hanger on, or tuft-hunter, the last *Gazette* announced the appointment of a brace of Pandits. One of the two is the accomplished head of the Education Department in Bengal, while the other is the head of the practical votaries of science among the people. By the appointment of Mr. CROFT and Dr. MAHENDRALAL SIRCAR, some justice has at last been done to the claims of the education department, which had hitherto been almost systematically excluded from the legislature. Babu BHUDEV MOOKERJEE was the only representative of the department ever called to the Council, but it was only an exception which more forcibly proved the rule. The selections have been practically confined to lawyers and executive officials, educationists and mere scholars being probably considered to be men of a world of their own, with little or no familiarity with the work-a-day world. That to such men the practical affairs of life are often a sealed book, or any rate are uncongenial pursuits, can scarcely be doubted. The principle has therefore been everywhere the same, in this country as in Europe—to confine the selections for the legislature to men of business professions. But the modern world has familiarized us with many striking changes, and it has of late come to be realized that lawyers and administrative officers should not after all retain their monopoly of legislative functions. In the continent of Europe as well as in England, men from the purely learned professions have been found quite equal to the affairs of practical life, and if, as we think, the appointments of Mr. CROFT and Dr. SIRCAR have been made in recognition of this new idea, we believe their individual aptitudes and business capacities will do justice to the choice. As regards the appointment of Dr. SIRCAR, his versatile talents are in requisition on various platforms and in more than one sphere.

Appointments to the Council have often been regarded in the light of a mere social honor, and ambitious natives are therefore found to pester high officials for this distinction, without having any other qualification than their position in society, or, more usually, their capacity for blarney. Ornamental members of this kind have already brought the office of a legislator into contempt. None, we think, should aspire to that office who cannot hold their own in a debate with the English members. It is not enough, in a genial way, to know the language of the Council, but the native member should catch the shades of thought and be familiar with the niceties of language. This ought certainly to be the rule of the Chambers of the three Presidencies, where only such men are to be had in sufficient

numbers for selection. And yet, from the foundation of the Bengal Council, few such men have been appointed. In this view of the question, Dr. SIRCAR is an acquisition to the Council, and if he can spare time from his numerous avocations, he may do useful work. He is sure to leave some good speeches on record.

ALTHOUGH we were late in the field with our programme, we are glad to find that the Jubilee Committee have listened favorably to it, so far as to vote a grant of Rs. 150 to each Ward of the town towards the expenses of street musical processions.

BABU JADULAL MULLICK gives an Evening Party at his house, on Monday next, in honor of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and Lady RIVERS THOMPSON.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1887.

### THE N. W. P. POSTMASTER-GENERALSHIP AND THE PRESS.

THE more aristocratic of Indian journals, as being supported by it, are the organs of the Civil Service. Since there have come to be Civilians and Civilians of all the hues of the rainbow, they are found to be partial only to Europeans. Just now they are not at all thankful to Government for giving the post (in every sense) of Rai SALIGRAM to a member of the Civil Service, merely because the native still remains. Therein lurks the sting. All the felicity of the change from Uncovenanted to Covenanted is lost in the survival of the element of justice to natives. Hence the howl set up by the *Englishman* and swelled by other lungs in the Anglo-Indian Press—the loud and bitter howl, as, with a rare felicity of epithet, the *Pioneer* calls it. The *Pioneer* too, after all, swells the chorus. The Allahabad journal has fallen on evil days. It evidently does not enjoy the same exclusive patronage of the Government that it did in the viceroyalty of Lord LYTON. Indeed, as Lord DUFFERIN assured the public long since, if the public were not suspicious of the utterances of a statesman, who had long been in diplomatic service, there is no official connection properly called. But the tradition remains, and our contemporary is in no hurry to break with a beneficial superstition. Besides, there are individual and social connections independent of Government, and these are almost as useful as, and sometimes more useful than, a direct contract. This state of mixed relation is not conducive to firmness of touch. It discovers itself in our contemporary in a want of clearness of tone, an absence of policy. The *Pioneer* blows hot and cold. Unstatesmanlike as a rule, it is wise by exception. Habitually unjust and scornful to the people, it is occasionally charmingly liberal. Always loyal to the powers that be, it has occasionally surprised the world by the boldness of its attitude on this question, its animus against the people has clashed with its courtierly instincts. In the same breath, it defends and denounces. Or rather, it performs its old role of explaining the Government measure and then demonstrates its new freedom by railing at gubernatorial folly.

Under any circumstances, the *Pioneer's* hostility to a native's appointment to a good place, can never be a matter for surprise. On this subject, there is little to choose between the Allahabad and the Cal-



cutta organ of British pretensions. The same spirit of exclusiveness of a dominant class makes the whole Anglo-Indian Press kin. But what shall we say of the opposition of the Native Press! It not only proves with how little wisdom many of our journals are conducted, but also that the Government have lost touch of the indigenus press. The *Hindoo Patriot*, which formerly boasted of being the interpreter of Government to the people, has committed the egregious blunder of so far misunderstanding the measure as to denounce it as a disgraceful arrangement. The *Indian Spectator* is nothing so severe, yet it equally misses the drift of the arrangement. One would have thought that that drift was obvious. The *Indian Echo*, which too dislikes the appointment, is unable to understand it without imagining the Government of Sir ALFRED LYALL in the act of soliloquising thus—“Well, if the Postmaster-Generalship must be given to an Indian, let it be given to an Indian Civilian,” much as the Begum of Bhopal may be supposed to have thought within herself, If I must accept a ruler of my state in place of my dismissed husband, let me have a European. “And this is what we strongly object to as a matter of principle,” cries our contemporary. But our good brother fights a chimera of his own creation. There is, indeed, no principle at all in the policy attributed to Government, as if on purpose to have a little military practice. If there was no body in the department or the Province to fill the post, what earthly reason is there for the Government of Upper India to go to another Local Government to borrow an officer? If the search were made for a European, the thing might be different, for then the lucky man might be somebody's somebody. But Mr. BADSHAH might be a Bashaw, or, for that matter, a very Badshah, for anything that the Lieutenant-Governor of the N. W. Provinces cared. He cannot be Sir ALFRED's nephew, and it is not suggested that he is a friend or *protege*. And what is true in respect of one European, is true of every other European. From the way in which these leading native journals speak, it would seem as if judgment had fled to brutish beasts and men had lost their reason—particularly the English men who rule the East. But the matter was not in the hands of the N. W. P. Government, so the whole speculation is useless.

Right or wrong, the whole thing was the doing of the Government of India, which must accordingly receive the praise or the blame. On the *Pioneer's* own showing, it is far from a blameworthy transaction. Nay, accepting the facts given from the first by our contemporary, without its opinion as subsequently expressed, the appointment, singular as it undoubtedly looks, as a singularly just move, is worthy of the Queen-Empress' Government and appropriate to the hour. On the 5th instant, the Allahabad paper wrote:—

“Mr. Kavasjee Jamasjee Badshah, C.S., an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Lower Provinces, will be appointed Postmaster-General of the North-West and Oudh when Rai Salig Ram retires. It is understood to be the desire of the Government to keep one of these posts for a native of India. No qualified officer could be found in the Office of the Director-General, whilst inquiry in these and other provinces has apparently failed to furnish a competent man of Indian parentage outside the ranks of the Civil Service. The fact that Mr. Badshah happens to be in the ranks of the Civil Service was merely an incident, we are told, the desideratum being that the nominee should be a native of this country. Mr. Dillon, Controller-General of the Post Office Accounts, whose name had been approvingly quoted in connection with the appointment, must apparently bide his time. But his

opportunity may come when the Postmaster-General of the Punjab retires, as we believe he will do before long. Mr. Badshah takes the post on Rs. 1,100, rising by increments of Rs. 100 to Rs. 1,500, which is its minimum pay as hitherto fixed; after which, we presume, his pay will follow the ordinary course.”

Since then, our contemporary has shown its vexation at the appointment. Under the guise of ridiculing the outcry against Government, it has joined in the chorus. As it has not modified its statement, its mere sentiment or opinion counts for nothing. We only regret that our native contemporaries should have bungled in such a simple case. The facts have not been questioned, and are, we believe, indisputable. For, so far as we have been able to ascertain, the Government had considerable difficulty in carrying out their determination to preserve the N. W. P. Postmaster-Generalship for the natives. The whole Department, from the Director-General down to the smallest Uncovenanted Christian, had apparently vowed, and Bengal and Upper India had apparently leagued, to prevent a native succeeding to Rai SALIGRAM's office. They all protested that there was no such native. SALIGRAM himself was no good; but if he was regarded a success, then he was the sole exception that proved the rule. On the supposition that this was due to a natural sympathy for Mr. DILLON, it was explained that that officer's merits would soon find their opportunity for reward in the vacancy expected in the Panjab. Still, not one among the numerous higher native officers in the Department—among those who have assisted in organising the system, and bringing it up to its high efficiency, who have carried the Post to the heart of the forest and beyond the sea and to barbarian tribes, who have familiarised the people with it and made it the most successful of British institutions in the East, not one could be found, or at rate would be named by the official heads and departmental chiefs. We can imagine the derisive scepticism with which Lord DUFFERIN, and his colleagues received such reports. But there was no help for it. The Government, as such, had no personal knowledge, and even if they had, they could not act over the heads of the responsible chiefs of departments. Almost any other administration would have given up the game in despair. Some of the best intentioned rulers have succumbed under obstacles far less overwhelming. The present administration has, in this instance, at once shown its zeal to serve the people and its skill. One of the highest offices in the state having once come to the natives, was again being lost. After reversion to the Europeans, it would have been difficult to recover it. It is no more irrational to appoint Mr. BADSHAH to the Post Office than it was to appoint Mr. KISCH or Mr. GRIMLEY, or to send Mr. BADSHAH from the Lower to the Upper Provinces than it was to bring up Mr. JAMES from Bombay to Bengal, but if it is an absurdity, in any degree, it was the only way to effect a necessary and desirable object. It is somewhat of an anomaly, no doubt, but an unavoidable anomaly. After all, it is a temporary shift. It is an arrangement expressly of a short duration. It is merely a device to keep the place warm for an efficient native. The Government of India have shown at once great courage as honesty of purpose as well as considerable ingenuity, by its adoption.

And then to be abused for it, by the very people they serve!

### AN OFFICIAL PRINCE ON THE GLORY OF POVERTY.

IT is the fashion now to dissuade our educated youth from the pursuit of service under the State. That pursuit is condemned as ignoble, and they are told to seek fresh fields and pastures new. Independent callings are held up to their admiration as alone worthy of adoption. Agriculture, the fine or mechanical arts, trade, manufactures and commerce are all pointed out as paths to opulence, or at any rate means of an honorable livelihood. But, above all, they must never look to the public service with a longing eye. They must not poach on a preserve set apart for their foreign benefactors. The virtue of independence is enjoined on us in words, mild or stern, through advice or expostulation, by persuasion, or ridicule, but the object is ever the same,—to keep us from stretching forth our hand for the loaves and fishes of the public service.

It was reserved, however, for the Vice-Chancellor of a University to attempt a higher flight in this line. Dr. HUNTER actually exhorts the graduates to starve as the height of literary glory. Two of his recent speeches, one delivered at the *Bangabasi* School, and the other at the University Convocation, strike us at any rate as strung in this key. They seem both designed to enforce the austere lesson. Read between the lines, their drift is unmistakable. Of course, Dr. HUNTER is too consummate a literary artist not to conceal his art. But, though cleverly concealed, the design runs through the execution. The speeches contain, no doubt, much teaching of value, but the lesson of lessons which Indian students are advised to follow, is not to look to the State for the good things of life. Without touching the life-question, or making any allusion to the great Service Commission now sitting, he manages, with a delicacy and cleverness all his own, to remind them that it lies with them and them alone to settle the life-problem for themselves. After recounting, in terms of most consoling compliment, the brilliant academical success attained at the Royal College of Agriculture at Cirencester and otherwise by the two Boses, who had founded and were the heads of the *Bangabasi* School, Dr. HUNTER said: "I well remember the many and unavailing efforts which these two gentlemen made on their return to India to find some suitable post. As a matter of fact the posts for which they had specially qualified themselves were not in existence, and they found every other door closed—or at any rate besieged by applicants who had stronger local claims. But the result before us to-day shows that if men have really educated themselves and have the pluck and energy to strike out for themselves, there is plenty of work in this country to do. Instead of hovering discontented on the out-skirts of the hungry crowd of office-seekers, they boldly took their future into their own hands. While learned authorities were discussing the possibility of combining technical with general education, they set up a school in which they determined to give technical as well as general instruction..... That was a bold idea to enter into the heads of two disappointed men." These, no doubt, are words of truth and wisdom, offered from the kindest of motives, but neither Dr. HUNTER nor we can divest ourselves of the painful consciousness that, notwithstanding their truth and wisdom and good intention, they must jar on the ears of the hungry crowd of office-seekers. The fact is, that the Honorable Doc-

tor delivered only a half-truth, which came almost with mocking contempt from an official who, with all his abstract appreciation of learned poverty, has nevertheless always been careful of the main chance, through all the vicissitudes of Indian Administration, until he got to the top, over the heads of a host of seniors, and now enjoys the princely emoluments and allowances of a Member of the Supreme Government, long before his time. It is here, in the subject-matter of his thesis, rather than in the treatment, that we discover a failure of Dr. HUNTER's usual discretion. We question not his merit, but merit does not always get its due, and Dr. HUNTER has had exceptional luck; and it is not for the lucky to sing the pathos of poverty or recommend the romance of misfortune. A warning against ambition or avarice might be intelligible, though scarcely needed in the case of the auditory. But the poor natives are apparently dissuaded from seeking an honest livelihood. It may be well to upbraid the crowd of hungry office-seekers, but the reproach comes with bad grace from placemen. The gracelessness becomes all the more glaring when it is remembered that the natives are told to be out of the way practically to make room for foreigners.

The Convocation speech was an apotheosis, as it were, of "the ancient honorable poverty of the Indian man of letters." Pointing to the rich and unexplored fields that lay before them in Indian antiquities, philology and even vernacular literature, he exhorted the graduates and said that these were all but virgin fields waiting for the worker. "Towards whatever quarter you set sail, there are new Americas to discover. If there is any worker among you, who fears not poverty and who loves fame, he may accomplish a most memorable achievement, and stand forth as the interpreter of medieval Bengal to the Western world. Believe me, this University will know how to reward such a man. And it will feel a nobler pride in his labors than in the richest material success or the highest official distinctions which may reward more lucrative careers." The advice is worthy of a Pandit of Dr. HUNTER's devotion to learning, and it were much to be hoped that, like the seed in the parable, it may not all fall away on barren places, but that some may fall on fertile soil and bear the desired fruit. But, in a material utilitarian age, we are not sure that the parents of the graduates whom Dr. HUNTER would tempt to the pathless Ocean and miserable lives of literary COLUMBUSES in search of the dark *terra incognita* of Indian research, would give him thanks for all his pains.

The Vice-Chancellor's speech was not only the speech of a Pandit, but also of a social reformer. Some of the most controversial topics in Indian sociology were discussed in the discourse, with all a veteran's adroitness which divested the most pronounced opinions of their offensiveness. The Vice-Chancellor's words on these topics may be regarded as an exposition of the views of the official class, on questions of social reform, and an enunciation of them under such auspices could not fail to have the effect which it was intended to produce.

A Pandit is by instinct a courtier, and at an annual academic ceremony, when the Vice-Chancellor is expected to take a comprehensive survey of the entire field of education, Dr. HUNTER, of all men, could not well refrain from paying Lady DUFFERIN's female educational movement at once the most courtly compliment and effective encouragement that it has perhaps ever received.

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT).

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND,

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

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No. 261

## The Week.

THE Press has celebrated the Jubilee in characteristic ways. The Calcutta morning papers took one day's holiday. There was no issue on the 18th. The *Englishman* besides has changed its types on the occasion, and came out fresh putting on a new appearance from the day of Jubilee. A change of tone would have been more to the point.

For our own part, we may say that we anticipated all our contemporaries. We began the Year of Jubilee with an enlarged appearance. It has not been noticed perhaps, as in our old-fashioned way we did not sound trumpet of self-glorification. Our size has been increased by more than five columns and this without any disturbance in the rates of payment.

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*Young India*, a Calcutta weekly, came out in golden type on the Jubilee day. That typifies the loyal sentiments of Young India.

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WE have received the first number of a weekly paper in English published in Calcutta, and called the *Hindu Herald*. As its name indicates, it will be conducted in the interests of the Hindu religion and Aryan morality.

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NAWAB ASHUNOOLLA, in addition to his other charities made during his stay in Calcutta, has now given Rs. 10,000 to the Imperial Institute Fund, Rs. 10,000 to the Provincial Jubilee Fund, Rs. 3,000 to the Lady Dufferin's Fund, and Rs. 2,000 to the Naraingunge Jubilee Dispensary. The Nawab also intends to build a Rest House at Dacca for travellers, to be called the "Victoria Serai." We beg to offer a suggestion. Let him remit the toll levied by him on all visitors to his Park.

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BABU RAGHUNATH DAS of Dacca, the millionaire of the vintner caste, has made a noble donation of Rs. 30,000 for charitable purposes in commemoration of the Jubilee.

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RAJAH UDAI PRATAP SING of Bhinga has given the handsome donation of Rs. 20,000, for a permanent memorial of the Queen's Jubilee in the shape of ten scholarships tenable by Kshetrya youths of the N. W. Provinces.

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THE good brothers NAFAR CHANDRA and BIPRODAS PAL CHOWDHRY, will commemorate the Jubilee by a permanent work of great utility. They have commenced to erect an embankment seven miles in length, at a cost of Rs. 25,000, for protecting a part of the Nuddea district from annual inundation.

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THE Maharaja of Cooch Behar left Calcutta early this week with a view to celebrate the Jubilee in his own capital.

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THE Great Eastern Hotel Company gave a free luncheon to five hundred of the European poor in Calcutta. Of other acts of charity to the poor which have marked the occasion, Raja RAJENDRA MULLICK distributed 2,000 pieces of cloth. Babu BENOBE BEHARY MULLICK has also distributed cloths and sweetmeats. There have been no doubt numerous similar charities in the provinces of which no reports have reached the press.

BOMBAY had the honor of the presence of a member of the Royal family during the Jubilee. The Duke of Connaught passed the Jubilee days there.

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THE Raja Bahadoor of Sonbursa, Bhagulpore, celebrated the Jubilee with great pomp. There were feasts, *Nautches*, illuminations, fireworks, as well as prayers offered at all his temples.

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THE High Priest of Baidyanath is taking to enlightened fashions. Besides the interest shown by him in the Lady Dufferin's Fund, the occasion of the Jubilee has furnished him with another opportunity for displaying his partiality for Western modes. Thus, instead of resorting to the primeval beat of tom tom, he sowed notices broadcast and placarded the streets with calls upon the people to demonstrations of loyalty.

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THE new Hooghly Bridge will be christened the Jubilee Bridge by the Viceroy.

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THE native merchants at Aden gave a grand feast to all comers and alms to the poor on the Jubilee Day.

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THE municipality of the Suburbs of Calcutta propose to celebrate the Jubilee by opening a dispensary for women and adding a ward to the Sumbhonath Pandit Hospital. They have adopted the right principle in beginning, as their Chairman Mr. FORBES said, their charity at home.

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THE scheme of the Imperial Institute is received with favor in Australia. A general contribution of thirty-five thousand pounds from the several Australasian Colonies is expected.

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A MEMORIAL was adopted at the Jessore Jubilee meeting praying for restoration of the title of Raja to the Chanchura family, which has been uninterruptedly enjoyed by the family from the time of Emperor AKBAR, since 1582. The munificent acts of this House for public good and the loyalty and attachment of the late Raja BARADA KANT ROY, at the time of the Mutiny, are also referred to by way of further strengthening the claim.

\*\*\*  
A SIMILAR memorial is to be submitted for the bestowal of a suitable recognition on the Narail family, the late representative of which Rai HARANATH ROY Bahadoor received a title, besides other tokens of honor for his loyalty and public-spirited benevolence. The Narail family is held in high estimation in the Jessore District and its liberal promotion of education and medical charity has been favorably known to Government from the time of the late Babu RAMRATAN ROY.

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THE Maharaja of Ulwar has given the munificent donation of Rs. 50,000 to the Lady Dufferin's Fund.

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FOR once the so-called Benighted city has taken the shine out of her prouder sisters. Both Bombay and Calcutta are behind Madras in the respective proportions of the Jubilee Fund. While the Madras Fund amounts to about Rs. 84,000, that of Calcutta is Rs. 44,000, and the Bombay collection is barely Rs. 40,000. The *Bombay Times* and other papers are speculating on the causes of this disparity. The

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

competition at this time of various subscription movements, the haze and vagueness surrounding the scheme of Technical education which has been put forward as the shape which the permanent memorial of the Jubilee should take, the action of the Bombay and Calcutta Municipalities in voting away public funds and thereby chilling the spontaneous effort of the people—to these and other facts is perhaps rightly attributed the apparent backwardness of the first two cities in the Empire. At the same time it must be remembered that the Madras leaders have shown more ingenuity and the people more trustfulness in their leaders. Their Fund has been swelled by devices which elsewhere would be resented almost as badly as official pressure. We doubt if the wholesale cutting of one day's pay from every man could be effected in Bombay or Calcutta.

BABUS BAMA CHARAN MITTER, AMRITALAL BOSE and KALIPADA GHOSE who, it will be remembered, were committed to the High Court for a bold attempt on the virtue of the immaculate Calcutta Police, have been acquitted. The result leaves the pea-green incorruptible—FITZGERALD in a pitiable plight. The fate of the Police officer who would have aggrandised himself on the ruin of three fellowmen, recalls the fate of another ambitious man in a higher sphere, and we involuntarily exclaim—

O mighty Cæsar! dost thou lie so low?

THE Finance Committee's report will be submitted to Government shortly.

MR. B. PAL CHOWDHRY has started his brass manufactory at Mohesgunge, under the name and style of the Bengal Engineering Works Company Limited. It has brought out several novel articles, particularly for the convenience of planters at considerably lower prices than are usually paid for them in this country.

A DISASTROUS fire, attended with damage to property estimated at five lacs of rupees, broke out in Rangoon on the 11th instant. Another fire took place at a Bombay Mill, inflicting damage to the extent of Rs. 75,000.

A CASE was lately brought by one BHIKAREE SING against RUNJEET SING and others on a charge of having cut the dam of a river which irrigated the lands of both parties. Mr. REILY, Deputy Magistrate of Monghyr, by whom the case was tried, dismissed it, on the ground that the facts alleged by the prosecution involved questions of civil right. Mr. MOSELEY, the District Magistrate, however, upon his own motion and without any notice to the petitioners, directed a retrial of the case. A motion having been made to the High Court, the Magistrate has been directed to show cause why his order should not be set aside.

THE trial of Mr. DILLON and five of his colleagues for conspiracy to prevent the payment of rent, has commenced in Dublin.

A CONVENTION between China and the Pope has been signed by which complete liberty and security are secured to the Catholics throughout China.

REUTER announces the conclusion of a secret treaty between Germany and China.

A CONSPIRACY has been discovered in the Military and Naval Schools of St. Petersburg. Eighteen cadets and seven naval officers implicated in the plot have been arrested.

THE Duke of Connaught, in presenting the war medals to the 28th Bombay Infantry for their conduct in Egypt, complimented them in a speech in Hindustani.

DIPLOMATIC relations between Portugal and the Sultan of Zanzibar have been broken off, and hostilities are threatened by the former, if the cession of the Tungi territory is refused.

EARL ONSLOW succeeds the Earl of Dunraven as Parliamentary Secretary at the Colonial Office.

THE Trans-Caspian Railway to Samarkand will be taken in hand immediately and it is likely to be complete for traffic by the end of November.

M. HENRI BECQUE, the author of *La Parisienne*, one of the most original, powerful and spirited comedies of the day, has, we see, been made Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, to the satisfaction of all classes.

M. DUCHAMP has been appointed Conseiller General of Pondicherry in place of M. CADET resigned. M. BAYET has been appointed *Chef de Service* of the French settlement of Yanoon.

THE lottery of Nice was drawn on the 16th January last.

AT Chandernagore, a Mahomedan lad of 14 years, Shaik SHADU by name, decoyed a child to some distance from his home, took off its bracelet and then threw the poor thing into a pond.

"THE peace of 1870," said Prince BISMARCK, "will be only a child's play at the side of that of 1890."

*Evening Whispers* whispers in our ear—aloud—the following compliment—for which thanks!—

"That *Reis and Rayyet* stands at the head of Weekly Newspapers published in Bengal, we have long been convinced; that it has a pretty large and influential circle of English readers is also certain—we have heard from a friend recently returned from home, of the eagerness with which it is sought and read at the Northbrook and other large clubs, immediately on its arrival in England—but that it should be quoted as an authority in art and industrial criticism, by such an eminent firm as A. B. Fleming and Co., of Caroline Park, Edinburgh, is an honor that seems to have been fittingly reserved by British Enterprise for the highly educated and accomplished Bengali gentleman who edits that paper. Not that our respected contemporary stands in need of 'certificates of honor' from Indian or even Home publications, but the advertisement that A. B. Fleming and Co. seek to give him in republishing his note on the quality of their manufactures, is unique, and if it were not for the ability of the Editor to criticise effectively works of art, their flattery would be meaningless and their efforts vain. But we will allow the advertisement to speak for itself."

[Here comes an Extract from *Reis and Rayyet*.]

Our contemporary thus concludes:—

"As this advertisement has been scattered broadcast over the face of the whole habitable globe, verily our friend might be said to have been entertaining angels unawares when he went out of his way to praise A. B. Fleming & Co.'s printing inks!"

We may as well mention here that one of the firm of A. B. Fleming and Co., is shortly expected in India in the course of a commercial tour throughout the globe.

BUSINESS in the Punjab Chief Court is heavily in arrears, and appeals are being set down for hearing in 1889.

THE laying of the Kohima Manipur telegraph line is being pushed forward with vigor, and it is expected to be completed before the end of the month.

THE people of Mauritius have resolved to send a Delegate to England to support their petition to the Queen for the reinstatement of Sir JOHN POPE HENNESSY. The petition bears 4,267 signatures, of which 1,638 are those of electors. This latter number represents the majority of the electors in the island.

IT is reported that the Bengal Government have recommended the grant of a special pension to Rai RAMSHUNKER SEN Bahadoor, retired Deputy Magistrate.

COLONEL Sir EDWARD BRADFORD, Chief Commissioner of Rajputana, has been appointed Secretary of the Secret and Political Departments of the India Office, in succession to Mr. ADOLPHUS MOORE, deceased.

THE *Pioneer* writes:—

"The three principal Burman leaders, Hla-Oo, Boh Shwe, and Buddha Yaza, are still at large, though incapable of doing much mischief. It is a curious fact that Hla-Oo and Boh Shwe have both been treating for surrender for weeks past, but accustomed as they have been all their lives to Burman treachery, they cannot make up their minds as to the honesty of British clemency. Every means has been taken to reassure them, but at the last moment they have hesitated, and they

are still in hiding. A telegram to-day states that Hla-Oo was actually in sight of an outpost to which he was coming in to give himself up when some soldiers unluckily covered him with their rifles, upon which he not unnaturally vanished back into the jungle. However that may be the shyness of these leaders shows the great difficulties which have to be encountered in dealing with the people of Upper Burma; our officials cannot in a year establish a belief in the intention of the Government to rule the country on an absolutely just basis; but as time passes the true character of our administration must make itself felt."

THE *Bombay Gazette* writes on the policy of educational retrenchment:

"The Government of Bombay appear to be consistent in their policy of educational retrenchment, with the consistency which comes of doing things on plan and on a large scale. They have been severely censured for their intention to withdraw their support from the High School at Surat, but the censure would have been more severe, so far as Surat at all events is concerned, if this had been an isolated act of economy, for, standing alone it would have been a measure not worth undertaking for any saving that might be effected by it. But if rumour is not wide of the mark, no fewer than seventeen high schools and secondary schools in the Presidency are to share the fate of the institution at Surat. Thus a substantial economy will be effected, and from that point of view the course proposed is intelligible. It is intelligible enough, however, to provoke the public to very stern resentment. No one will believe, until practical proof has been given of it, that seventeen towns are prepared to step forward and without delay substitute private for Government resources in the support of higher education. Nor will many be willing to accept the best excuses that Government may be prepared to offer for the course proposed."

It is reported that a commercial treaty has been concluded between China and Portugal.

ON Monday, our well-known townsman Babu JADULAL MULLICK gave an Evening Party in honor of the Lieutenant-Governor. It has been reported with the usual perfectoriness of the Calcutta press. We read the name of Baboo KALLY PROSUNNO DEY as one of the *elite* of Calcutta society present, but he certainly was not there but at a different place. Sir RIVERS THOMPSON, who is improving in grace wonderfully as the sands of his official life are ebbing fast, was there with Lady THOMPSON and other ladies and gentlemen of the court of Belvedere. The place is a prodigious pile worthy of a prince, lost in a bad locality, a narrow lane, altogether a close and dark quarter. The arrangements were remarkable for prudence, if not foresight. There was one bouquet, which was presented to Lady RIVERS THOMPSON. Refreshments were provided for all the Europeans, who had for amusement the performances of the Japanese Troupe and of Miss SHERIDAN on the piano. There were *nautches* for the native high life belowstairs.

UP to the time of our going to press, the Cambay scandal case had not been concluded. The prosecution has produced a mass of correspondence and other evidence in support of the charge. The following letter of the aggrieved Dewan to his solicitor Mr. CHALK puts the subject matter of the complaint in a clear light.

"Cambay, November 23, 1886.

My Dear Mr. Chalk, -How will you be astonished to read this letter contents of which my hand shakes to write. Our present Political Agent is Mr. Wilson. He was very kind to me, and he is so even now. But yesterday (while his camp being in Cambay) he sent me a *confidential man*, his *mallee*, with one arm, with one Jorabhoy, an employe under me, and a brother of the head writer of Mr. Wilson. I forgot to say that Jorabhoy first came, informed me that the *sahab* had sent his *mallee*, and that he wishes to see me on some private matter. I said to him, 'Very well, bring him here.' He said he was sitting at his house (Jorabhoy's), and so he left me, and within a few minutes returned with him. I beckoned Jorabhoy to retire aside, on which the *mallee* opened with me with a most infamous message that I ever heard. He said, the *sahab* said my daughter was in the habit of staying with the Nawab, and she might well be sent to him. I indignantly denied the truth of the statement, and I believed it was more the canard of the *mallee*, and I said there were lots in the town. The *mallee* was silenced by my strong reply, and left me. In the evening I had a conversation with the *sahab*, and there were many persons with me at the time. He said, amongst other things, that he had received a letter from a vakeel, named Tripaty, saying he was instructed to come there to lay his grievances, and that he intended to write to him that he could not reply until he had stated his grievances, adding that he believed that he did not know what *locus stundi* the vakeel had, &c. After this conversation we left. After an hour or so, a *puttawala* from *sahab* came and informed me that *sahab* desired that, when I came to see him the next morning, I should come alone. So this morning I went to see him. He had some papers in his hand and placed them in my hands and took me to an upper chamber in Lallbag, where we had put him. He asked whether I had seen Jaliya. I said, 'Yes, he called on me yesterday.' Then he added that he hoped that I had arranged as he had said and that it was all right. He said my ladies were going to the Nawab, and it would make no difference if they did to him. I again said that it was false. He said he did not believe it,

&c., and said all his future plans of dealing with the vakeel's matter, &c., depended upon his compliance, that he would further my son's prospects in public service, and that if I did not think over it, and if I thought that the *sahab* was an easy-going man and could be trifled with, that it was a mistake and would bring on my misfortune. He said Purbhoos did this in Rutnagherry. I said I could not speak to my daughter on such a subject, and I did not care what other people did. We, however, did not do such things, and I told him that he had been misled, and I could not make out what was the matter with him. I afterwards had Jaliya near me and desired him to bring his *sahab* to his senses and prevent a rupture, which would be unpleasant to all. He promised to speak to the *sahab* and put matters right and inform me of it. By the way, the *mallee* on the first day's visit to me had brought a letter addressed to Mr. Wilson by Mr. White recommending one Umedram for appointment. I am in haste and distress.—Yours,

SHAMRAO N. LAUD."

## Editorial Notes.

THE Queen's Jubilee has been celebrated in India on an unprecedented scale. The Government and the people were alike animated with a determination to honor the event with every circumstance of pomp and ceremony, and there was a demonstration the memory of which will descend to generations yet unborn. The extent of the Indian continent naturally lent itself to the grandeur of the demonstration. The spectacle of a congeries of races and tribes, of, in fact, the two hundred and fifty millions of people, male and female, young and old, all stirred with the same feelings, and enjoying themselves to their heart's content at one and the same time, is, indeed, unparalleled in the experiences of this country. The different presidencies and provinces and districts and towns vied with one another to make the celebration worthy of the event. There were all over the country festivities and rejoicings into which the entire people entered with the keenest zest. Special divine Services were held in temples and mosques and Synagogues and Churches. While military parades and illuminations and fireworks, feasting and songs and dances, athletic games and theatrical amusements, treats to children and the poor, afforded opportunities for a general merry-making, more substantial methods of commemorating the event were not lost sight of. Large funds have been raised for the purpose by voluntary subscription. The object which of all others meets with acceptance at the hands of the Government and of the public, is to provide means for the promotion of practical education among the people. This is likely to absorb the greater portion of the Jubilee Funds that remain after the needs of popular amusement are satisfied. But especial endowments have also been made in various localities for permanent memorials of other kinds of public utility.

RAJA SIR SOURENDRO MOHAN TAGORE, Kt., C. I. E., has given a sum of Rs. 2,000 four per cent. Government paper for the establishment, out of the interest thereof, of two prizes for the encouragement of the study of Sanskrit, to be given in the name of his late father Babu HARA COOMER TAGORE, in commemoration of her Majesty's Jubilee.

KHORSHED KUDR SYED ISKUNDER ALI MIRZA of Moorshedabad, has instituted a gold medal of the value of Rs. 100, to be awarded to the Mahomedan student who stands first in the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University for the year 1887.

Srimati BISHEWSHARY Devi Chowdhurani, Zemindar of Gouripore in Mymensingh, and Babu ROGHUNATH DAS, Banker and Zemindar of Dacca, have given donations of Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 1,500 respectively, in support of the Eden Female School at Dacca.

Babu MAHARAJ CHANDRA and Babu ANANDA CHANDRA Rai Chowdhuri, of Moria in Mymensingh, have given a donation of Rs. 2,000 for the maintenance and improvement of the Tangail Graham School, in the Mymensingh District.

All these endowments are made in commemoration of the Jubilee. The Lieutenant-Governor has acknowledged them in the official *Gazette* with thanks.

We may here announce another donation of Rs. 1,000 given by Raja Sir SOURENDRO MOHUN in the name of his father for the improvement of a strand road in the Baranagar municipality.

RAJA HARBALLABH NARAYAN SING of Sonbursa has given the handsome subscription of Rs. 600 yearly to the Bhagulpore Branch of Lady Dufferin's Fund, which represents the interest at 4 per cent of



Rs. 15,000. He is also making expensive arrangements for the reception of the Lieutenant-Governor who goes on a sporting excursion to Bhagulpore and Purnea.

HIS Excellency the Viceroy having informed Her Majesty the Queen-Empress of the enthusiastic manner in which Her Jubilee has been celebrated throughout India by all classes of her subjects, Her Majesty has been pleased to command the Viceroy to convey to the people of India her warmest thanks, and her deep appreciation of their loyalty.

WE have reason to believe that the Government of India are collecting facts of the Jubilee celebration in India, for a sufficiently full yet concise report to Her Majesty and the Home Government.

THE Civil Suits Valuation Bill has been passed by the Supreme Legislative Council. In moving for the enactment of the Bill, the Hon'ble Mr. SCOTLE gave a clear exposition of the reasons which made it necessary that some changes should be made in the present system of their valuation. The valuation, it is well known, is made on the institution of a suit for two purposes. First, for ascertaining the stamp duty to be levied in court fees. Secondly, for determining the Court of competent jurisdiction for its trial. The Court Fee valuation, however, which is made on the basis of the revenue paid by an estate which is the subject matter of the suit, does not in practice afford a correct criterion of its real value which must regulate the jurisdiction of the Court. Courts of Munsiffs are thus found trying suits whose real value much exceeded the nominal value to which their jurisdiction is limited. Accordingly, it has been suggested by more than one Local Government that there should be a different method for ascertaining the subject matter of suits for purposes of jurisdiction from the method provided by the Court Fees Act for ascertaining the stamp duty. The method proposed in the present Act is to take for purposes of jurisdiction the market value of an estate as ascertained by rules to be framed by the Local Government with the sanction of the Governor-General in Council and in consultation with the High Courts.

Another important change made by the present Act is the provision that, where on appeal objection is taken on the ground of undervaluation or over-valuation in the first instance, instead of all the proceedings being thereby rendered null and void, and the plaintiff returned to the plaintiff with liberty to bring a fresh suit and go over the whole matter again, the Court of Appeal shall have one opportunity of trying it as an original suit and disposing of it without further waste of time or expense to the parties concerned.

THE Indian Companies' Act has been amended with the object of giving some classes of claims against companies which go into liquidation and wind up their business, priority over other classes of creditors. In addition to all claims of the crown, priority is by this amending Act given to rates and taxes due to municipalities for a twelvemonth previous to liquidation, as well as to salaries of clerks due up to Rs. 1,000 and wages of laborers and workmen up to Rs. 500.

THE Lower Burma Courts' Bill has passed. It abolishes the Court of the Recorder, the Court of the Judicial Commissioner, and the Special Court, and establishes in their place a Chief Court on the model of the Lahore Chief Court which will be for Lower Burma the Court of ultimate resort in India. The Court will consist of three or more judges, the first of whom who must be a Barrister of standing will be styled the Recorder, and one of the other judges will be styled the Judicial Commissioner. These changes which place the judicial administration of the province on an entirely revised basis, are made to meet the increase of business in the Recorder's Court as well as to remove the reasonable complaints which have been made against the decisions of that Court for wanting finality, as well as against the delay and expense of appeals to the High Court of Calcutta.

RAJA PRAMATHA BHUSAN DEB ROY and a number of his tenants moved the High Court, through their counsel Mr. M. GHOSE, for a rule on the Deputy Magistrate of Magoorah, Babu KALIPRASANNA SIRCAR, to show cause why the cases against them should not be transferred from his file. There are no less than four cases against them in which they are charged with unlawful assembly and rioting accompani-

ed with the use of firearms, in a protracted dispute about some lands with another though a smaller Zemindar, one Babu GOBIND CHUNDER BHUTTACHARJEE and his tenants. In support of the motion, the learned counsel made certain allegations to show that the Deputy Magistrate bears personal ill-feeling against the Raja and that therefore there are no chances of a fair trial by that officer. It would appear that in May 1886, the Raja having advertised certain moveable properties for sale, including a carriage and horse, the Deputy Magistrate was anxious to buy the carriage and horse provided the Raja should take them back for the same price that was to be paid when he should leave the district. This the Raja declined to do. At another time the Raja had declined to accommodate the Deputy Babu with a loan of his elephant on the occasion of his daughter's marriage. These things, Mr. GHOSE said, seemed to have annoyed the Deputy Magistrate, and several of his proceedings in cases in which the Raja was concerned seemed to have been unnecessarily harsh so as to give colour to the imputation of personal bias against him. The rule has been granted.

We deeply regret that an experienced Deputy Collector should have his good name mixed up with such a case. We anxiously await the result.

THE meeting held on Sunday last, under the auspices of the Sabitri Library, to express condolence at the death of Babu RAJ KRISHNA MOOKERJEE and respect for his memory was, as usual with everything of the Sabitri Library, a great success. The gathering was fairly large, with a preponderance of the lettered class, and almost every man of mark in the sphere of vernacular literature who could, did attend. Some who were unavoidably prevented from coming, sent to the Secretary apologies for their absence. On Dr. SIRCAR rather awkwardly declining to take the chair, Mahamahopadhyay MAHES CHANDRA NAYARATNA, C. I. E., was voted to it. The speakers at the meeting were Pandits SIVANATH SASTRI, and JADUBESWAR TARKARATNA and Babus KRISHNA KAMAL BHATTACHARJEE, GURUDAS BANERJEE and MONOMOHUN BOSE, all of whom, as might be expected, did full justice to the subject-matter of the occasion. The president's conduct in the chair as well as his speech was also admired by one and all, and altogether the proceedings were gone through without a hitch or hiatus.

This movement of the Sabitri Library is in one respect unique. Although a memorial movement, it is singularly free from the inevitable call for subscription. We congratulate the originators on the happy appropriateness of the idea of honoring departed literary worth merely by kindly remembrances of the man that is gone, by condolence with his surviving family and by publication of his biography.

A sketch of Babu RAJ KRISHNA's life prepared by Pandit HARAPRASAD SASTRI was read at the meeting, and on the motion of Dr. GURUDAS BANERJEE, a request was delicately conveyed to Babu CHUNDERNATH BOSE and Pandit HARAPRASAD SASTRI to amplify that sketch into an enlarged biography of the deceased. The meaning and force of the suggestion was, though, blurred over and minished by setting a rider upon it in the shape of a request to them to undertake also the completion of the History of India in Bengali upon which RAJ KRISHNA had set his heart and in which he had made some progress. As if taste and research may be transmitted to friends by will or without will! As if, supposing specific literary powers and studies to be common to the living and the dead, a History of India written by the Baboos in question would redound to the credit of the lamented writer who had planned it!

The Sabitri Library by undertaking to commemorate deceased Vernacular authors, assumes a new role which, with judicious performance, will greatly enhance its usefulness and importance. It is no small thing for an institution like this to be permitted to deal at once encouragement and recognition to learning and taste, and should the Library go on as it has begun, it would, in the world of vernacular literature, soon come to perform, informally of course, and loosely perhaps, one at least of the functions of the Academy in France.

THERE is great joy in the Panjab over the acquittal of the persecuted vakil, Lala MOORALIDHAR. The greatest excitement prevailed during the whole of these painful and protracted proceedings, and the final sentence was greeted with acclamation by a large number of sympathizers who had crowded the Court and who then dispersed in order. LALA MOORALIDHAR, it will be remembered, has been the



victim of pure suspicion. The Hindus held a meeting to deliberate as to the steps they should adopt in regard to their religious processions, so as to avoid disturbances and collisions with Mahomedans. After some discussion, the meeting sent for the Lala to help it with his counsels. He came, but without giving a hasty opinion, took time to think over the matter. This was the head and front of all his offending, for which Mr. BULMAN, the head of the district police, caused him to be placed on trial on a charge of taking part in an unlawful assembly, and others of that sort. The Court of first instance convicted him, and passed a sentence of imprisonment and fine. On appeal to the next higher court, the sentence was reduced to one of fine only, but the Court of ultimate jurisdiction has now vindicated his innocence by acquitting him altogether. The circumstances of this case are indeed most distressing. They show how completely powerless even our leading men—men of education, respectability, and reputable antecedents are against official distrust and high-handedness—how completely at the mercy of an alien unsympathetic bureaucracy out of all touch with native public opinion and feeling, are the honor and character and even liberty of our best men.

SIR ALFRED CROFT, Director of Public Instruction, has given encouragement to a struggling native author and a useful compilation by subscribing for 75 copies of Babu RAMGOPAL SANYAL'S *Life of Kristodas Pal*, editor of the *Hindoo Patriot*, for the use of School and College libraries in Bengal. He has thereby also marked his appreciation of Babu KRISTODAS, whose memory will be better kept by the school boys and schoolmasters, the collegians and dons, from their acquaintance with this book, than by all the lukewarm efforts of envious surviving friends and perfunctory memorialists.

WE cordially welcome back to Calcutta our distinguished countryman, Baboo LAL MOHUN GHOSH, though we certainly would not desire that he should stay long amongst us. Let him go and fight the election campaign again, and may better success attend his next effort. The liberality of the Deptford constituency is, indeed, exemplary, as it is encouraging.

WE regret to hear that Babu DEBENDRANATH TAGORE, the patriarch of the Brahma Samaj, and the spiritual father of Babu KESHUB CHUNDER SEN, is dangerously ill.—We are sorry to record the death of Baboo KALIMOHUN DAS, the well-known pleader of the High Court, which occurred on Thursday.

FOR hours before the imperial salute of 101 guns was fired from the ramparts of Fort William on Wednesday the 16th February at sunrise, the streets of Calcutta were alive with streams of people wending their way to the *maidan* to witness the Review of troops at 9 A. M. Never was a greater concourse of spectators seen at a military display. The space reserved for the Review was surrounded by rows of men at places eight or ten deep, with numbers of carriages behind, full of eager sight-seers over the head of the multitude on the ground in front. Intense was the eagerness of the crowd to get a glimpse of the ceremony, or rather of the more conspicuous figures in it. The rush for places to the front was ceaseless. The lines of men surged forward and backward, and one could with difficulty keep the same place for several minutes. For such a vast gathering, there were few or no accidents to speak of. Only a branch of one of the casuarina trees which were climbed by numbers of people gave way, precipitating its unaccustomed burden to the ground, but fortunately it was not high and no injury resulted. One solitary accident of a really serious kind is, however, reported which was attended with loss of three or four lives according to the two different versions which have reached us, by a spirited horse breaking loose from its carriage.

The Review has been pronounced to have been a splendid success, but the heat of the hour fixed with the dust and inconveniences of a great crowd were not favorable for perfect enjoyment of the spectacle by all but the upper ten. The principal event of the day was the reception of congratulatory addresses from the Delegates in the afternoon at the Grand Stand on the Race course. Their Excellencies the Viceroy and the Countess of Dufferin arrived on the ground at 5 P. M. and were received amidst ringing cheers from the assembly by the Lieutenant-Governor. After presentation of the Executive Committee for the celebration of the Jubilee, their Excellencies were conducted to their seats on the dais, when the introduction of the delegates began. This over, the Viceroy addressed the assembly. These proceedings terminated at about 7 P. M., when the fireworks commenced in front

of the Grand Stand. Remembering that there was only a fortnight for preparation, the fireworks must be pronounced, on the whole, as a great success. Messrs. BROCK and Company are too well known to fame to need any praise at our hands, but their display of Wednesday fully maintained their reputation.

But the grandest feature in the celebration of the Jubilee was the illumination. This was fittingly reserved for the second day, Thursday. The illumination was an unparalleled success. There have been general illuminations of Calcutta before, got up on an equally lavish scale of expenditure, but they could not possibly be equally effective from the simple reason of the absence of some of the palatial public buildings which have since been erected. The Government buildings were one and all converted for the nonce into Fairy Palaces.

For the first time in our memory, an effort was made in right earnest to light up the exterior of Government House, and the result was worthy of the viceregal residence at the capital of India.

There was room for criticism in all the arrangements on these two memorable days, but we are in no spirit of fault-finding, and indeed have no space for such indulgence.

THE Government has sanctioned an expenditure of three lacs of rupees on account of illumination for the celebration of the Jubilee in Bengal, Behar and Orissa. The major part of this sum has gone to meet the expense of the illumination of Calcutta, the rest being allotted in a sum of Rs. 500 each to the forty seven districts comprised in the territory.

THE cost of the fireworks in Calcutta on the Jubilee day is Rs. 2,500.

It was not by a misprint as many suppose that we announced the 25th as the Budget day. Notwithstanding the statements of our contemporaries, we believe the financial statement will not be ready before that day.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1887.

### THE JUBILEE CELEBRATION AND ITS MEANING.

AFTER all deductions that may be suggested by intelligent criticism, or even exacted by hostile microscopism, the Jubilee must be pronounced a success. It has been a success not in one place or *pergana* or Province, but everywhere in all localities throughout the length and breadth of the land, at all points of centre, and has been so accepted by the whole people. It is theirs by right to determine the point. The people undertook the heat and the burden of the day, and in a matter in which their feelings form the chief factor, it is for them more than any others to pronounce judgment. It is important to know that they are satisfied. Not but that, opportunities and means permitting, they would not have done more, but enough and even to spare was done, and done with grace and enjoyment, because from the depths of the soul and a full heart. The lute was sound and of course its music was unexceptionable. No harsh or discordant note entered the loud harmonious blast of loyalty that arose from all sides. The whole people and all sections and communities were up in jubilation. The feeling was universal. The effect might be concentrated at the centres of population, but these centres, great and small, were multiplied *ad infinitum*, for the loyalty was neither local nor racial nor sectional, but pan-Indian, and the disposition to duly demonstrate it on the auspicious day fixed by authority was dispersed throughout the country. The subject millions were animated with one sentiment—fired by one desire. The races and creeds sunk their differences. The Hindus and Mussulmans, as if by common consent, forgot that there ever were Mohurram and Dusserah and Ramlila collisions. Shiah and Soonnee for the moment buried the animosities of twelve hundred years in order to be able to give the united homage of Islam to the Christian Queen.

At one time the prospect seemed far from cheering. It was, to begin with, difficult under any circumstances for a simple people to warm into overt manifestations of loyalty towards a distant alien sovereign whom

they had never seen nor could hope ever to see. Were it not for the progress of intercommunication between races and peoples in these days and the visit to this country of late years successively of their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales, and the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, it would have been an impracticable attempt. But times and manners alike have changed even in the stolid immoveable East. British rule in India is at least full one century and a quarter old, and the European connection full three centuries. Notwithstanding the poor Indian's ignorance of extra Indian geography and history, between the slow action of time and events, the visits of many of our people to Europe, and other causes, the substantial existence of England—the mysterious land, source of power, beyond the wide, wide ocean—had at last been realised. In this century every twenty years, from 1813 till 1853, the multifold administrative screens which served to obscure the sovereign from the subjects' sight or apprehension were, one by one, dropped. In 1858 the whole circumlocution of Double Government was abandoned and, in place of the legendary old lady of numerous progeny of Leadenhall Street, the Queen of England assumed the direct charge of her great Indian Dependency.

Still the interest felt in the crown by the people was necessarily imperfect and vague. The people could scarcely be expected to evolve the personal entity of Majesty out of the depths of their moral consciousness. Personal loyalty was impossible in the absence of the direct impact of the ruling personality upon the subjects. It was not before the advent of a scion of royalty in the person of the Queen's second son, that the Indians imbibed a vivid impression of royalty in concrete. The impression was improved and thoroughly confirmed by the arrival of the Heir Apparent to the throne. Then for the first time the people felt that royalty was not an illusion—a *maya*—a metaphysical abstraction—but a thing of flesh and blood. Since then, another distinct step was taken in the descent of royalty in person to the business and bosoms of the people. The grand assembly on the plains of Delhi, historic with the ruins of empires, to commemorate the assumption of the title of Empress of India by the Queen of Great Britain, notwithstanding all that has been said against that addition to the royal style and against the scenic ceremonial resorted to to give it effect, did not go for nothing.

This Jubilee has accelerated the movement—appreciably advanced the good work. It is a necessary as well as good work. It is at the same time arduous. So long as the millions of this land do not identify themselves with their fellow subjects of the Mother Country in political sentiment, so long as they do not conceive the same attachment for the Family which functions as the coping stone of the constitution and same reverence for the lady in whom the majesty of Great Britain is embodied, there is practically little prospect of their being accepted as full British subjects. At the same time, so long as Britain from the Royal House of Brunswick, through all the aristocracy and gentry down to the people "at Home," do not see their way to that acceptance, the *solidarity* of empire in the East will be an empty sound or a self-imposed illusion. Yet the difficulties are enormous. It is not enough, we are afraid, for Indians to be ready for the formalities of respect or even to feel a cold intellectual interest in the mother-country and the crown or to be inspired

with a mere utilitarian zeal for the stability of British Power and influence. The political and even social gulf between the two races and two countries, will not be bridged over till the stronger can make sure of a more intimate regard. Of course, the drawing of hearts in such cases begins in the prosaic ties of profit and self—of comfort and happiness, but the union is matured by the growth of genuine affection, and till that growth come, whatever the duration through which it may run, that union is but a rope of sand. It is difficult, no doubt, to bring about this growth, a difficulty immensely increased by the very constitution of England no less than by geographical and anthropologic facts. But it is not impossible. Statesmanship knows no impossibilities. It will yet be done, we are persuaded, even if no political genius come to the rescue, by the slow action of enlightenment on the two continents and the regeneration of the heart of the Great British people. Meanwhile, we rejoice in the opening of the heart of India on the present occasion and the symptoms of reciprocity shown by the ruling class. To us, we confess, the Jubilee is most interesting as an event which confirms our hopes in the direction of the consummation so devoutly to be desired. It has brought the people nearer by so many degrees to the presence. More than ever, as much as was possible under present circumstances, India has realised the British Connection and that sovereign whom they dimly perceive in often uncongenial Law harshly enforced and the hierarchy of cold salaried officials. We would rather not mar with small criticism such an auspicious occasion.

#### PROVINCIAL CONTRACTS.

THE recommendations of the Finance Committee with regard to the Provincial contracts, have proved, as might be expected, disagreeable to the Local Governments. Those recommendations amount practically to a departure from the lines laid down by Lord Mayo as the basis of his Decentralization scheme, and some of the Local Governments have therefore objected to the change of principles involved in the Committee's proposals. The Government of India, however, deny that, in calling on the Provincial Governments, on the occasion of a renewal of the periodical contract, to be content with a smaller share of the revenue of any department, than the existing one under the previous revision, there is any change of principles, and, to prevent misunderstanding in the matter, have issued a Resolution explaining their views on the subject.

The fundamental consideration, which must govern the subject, is the fact that the Government of India is responsible for the whole of the Military Defence of the Empire as well as for the interest upon debt and the Home charges, including the increasing loss by exchange. These and similar burdens not only have to be met out of the receipts of the Revenue Departments of which the administration is confided to the Provincial Governments, but they must be considered to have priority of claim over the ordinary charges of the Civil Administration. Existing obligations in respect of payment of interest upon debt and guaranteed railway interest must be met before money is considered available for any other purpose. Military Expenditure falls also under the same category.

Acting on this cardinal principle, the Government of India has, on the occasion of every revision of the Provincial contracts, to consider, "not how much of the revenues assigned under the last contract, can

continue to be usefully spent upon the heads of expenditure controlled by the Provincial Governments, but how much of the general revenues the Government of India, consistently with its obligations, and with the growth of demands upon its resources since the commencement of the period about to expire, can surrender for a further period to the Provincial Governments, in order to enable them to meet whatever expenditure is essential to the conduct of administration."

The Provincial Governments are then earnestly reminded of the very urgent need that at the present time exists for exercising the utmost economy in expenditure, and of their duty to take an equitable share of the general burden. They are, however, assured of the amount needful to cover all assigned expenditure, which is pointed out to be a substantial concession now for the first time made to them. If they are now required to surrender a larger share of their increase in revenue, they are encouraged to expect that "by the exercise of economy and by retrenchment no less than by the normal growth of their revenues," they will be able to recoup the loss. "The motives for the exercise of that good and economical administration which is one of the chief objects of the contract system, will, therefore, not be impaired by reductions in the existing scale of expenditure."

The new Provincial contracts have been regulated on the following principles:—

"(a) The revenues, under ordinary circumstances, increase year by year; part of this increase being spontaneous growth, and part being due to good administration.

"(b) The demands upon Government for expenditure also increase year by year.

"(c) Accordingly, a certain part of the revenues and a certain part of the expenditure are separated off for a time from the general account. An estimate is made of the amount at which these revenues and expenditure stand at their existing stage of growth, (it will be noted that the existing stage of growth forms the basis of the estimate) and the two amounts are so arranged as to balance each other, or to present a moderate excess on the one side or on the other. The condition of the separation is, that all demands for increase over the initial figure of the expenditure side must be met by realization of increases over the initial figure on the revenue side.

It is impossible, in view of such arrangements, to calculate the revenues of the assigned departments at the lowest figure that the Local Governments can, under the most adverse circumstances, receive. The Government of India is also unable to effect an assignment of revenue sufficient without further development, to assure increases of expenditure contemplated by Provincial Governments, or to grant an initial surplus of assigned revenue over assigned expenditure."

We must confess there is no contending against those necessities which have imposed upon the Government of India the obligation of practically annulling the scheme of decentralization as originally understood. The British Empire is maintained by force of arms, and the Military Expenditure, apart from all questions as to its abstract rights or the necessity of its maintenance at the dimensions to which it has of late grown, must claim priority of attention. To us, it is nevertheless a disappointment that the economies which have been effected by the Finance Committee are no real economies. They are merely economies in civil expenditure to be swallowed up by increased expenditure on the army. The economies will lead to no relief of taxation, to no actual reduction of expenditure. And, what is worse, the cutting down of the share of Provincial Governments in the increased Revenues, coupled with the fact that they are expected to recoup that loss by all the usual methods open to them, cannot fail to have disastrous effects upon the more purely local funds. As the Imperial Government devolves its burdens upon the Provincial Governments, they, in their turn, will not be slow to pass off some of their own obligations upon the heads of the Local Authorities, necessitating increased taxation of the masses of the population.

### THE ROYAL INSTITUTE.

STARTED under the highest auspices, the proposed London Institute cannot suffer from want of support. The Prince of Wales, whose popularity is coextensive with the Empire, has set his heart upon it. His Royal Mother has also expressed approval. After that, the Secretary of State could not well help taking up the idea in right earnest, and issuing the needful instructions to the Viceroy. Lord DUFFERIN, more directly responsible for the acceptance of the proposal in this country, commends it with a piece of reasoning which, whatever its intrinsic force, can not fail to have its intended effects in the intended quarters. His Lordship has attempted to show that the Institute in its objects is akin to the Technical Education movement in India, and thus entitled to a share of the local funds being raised for the latter object. The Local Governments have always been distinguished for their loyalty, and will, as a matter of course, pass on the word of command to the inferior magnates, whose position, though inferior in the official scale, is nevertheless invested with more real authority in popular estimation under the bureaucratic system. Started under Royal auspices, and promoted by powerful official countenance, the project cannot fail from lack of funds.

It is significant, however, that a large section of the Anglo-Indian press, not excluding even the *Pioneer*, has been constrained to condemn this fresh call for Indian subscriptions, in more or less measured terms. Indeed, the Allahabad journal has surprised everybody by its damaging strictures upon the movement. The native press, of course, disapproves of it as firmly, though in less strong language, so that there can be no doubt that public opinion is in general against it. The Indian officials themselves, we fancy, cannot but be conscious of the impropriety of devolving on them such a duty, however active they might show themselves in putting that pressure without which it cannot be performed. The success of the appeal is, however, certain, all the same. A call for subscriptions emanating from high official quarters, cannot fail in this country. Not to speak of the too great disposition amongst us to waive our better judgment whenever it runs counter to official sentiment, the native Princes and nobles have scarcely any option in the matter. It is a new species of *benevolences*, which there is no escaping. It is taxation, only by another name. The way in which it is managed, is as perfect as a fine art. With Regal and Viceregal countenance at the fountainhead, and official pressure of every degree of force down the entire channel, with a temptingly open vista of honors and titles running parallel, the effect is simply irresistible. It is a thoroughly organised system for raising the "wind" which cannot fail to command success.

But how long will this extortionate system of *benevolences* go on? It is evidently based upon some misconceptions which deserve to be removed. One of these misconceptions is evidently a belief in the abundance of wealth in this country. It is thought, we believe, that India teems with riches inexhaustible. We cannot account for the appeals for help so perpetually made to the wealthy classes in our country on any other supposition. To-day it is one Fund, and the next day another. Not a year passes but has a number of Funds towards which the same limited number of people are expected to pour out from their supposed hoards. But have not these fabled hoards long since disappeared? Now, with regard to the

Royal Institute, if it stood alone, it would by no means be too great or costly an undertaking, for the subjects of this great Indian Empire to achieve, with the greatest possible ease in the world. Apart from the question of its advantages to the people of this country, India would rear up such a memorial without difficulty or demur, if it were the only memorial of the Jubilee, or if it were the only thing to which they were called to subscribe. But how many things of this kind are there! Are they not to have in their own country their local and provincial Jubilee memorials to meet their more direct wants? Is the country really so very rich as to afford to meet these repeated calls upon its liberality? The *Pioneer* has so admirably reflected public opinion on this subject that it is with great pleasure we quote him *in extenso*:

"There never was a time in India in which more schemes for extracting money from native, and, we may add, European pockets, were afloat, or in which more amateur tax-collectors in the guise of subscription-seekers lay-laid an embarrassed public. First there is Lady Dufferin's Fund which has long held the field, and which seems to meet one at every turn with some new want or some new device for capturing contributions. Next there is in every district the mysterious 'Jubilee' Fund, which to the unenlightened mind appears to be a scheme for making people pay for fireworks who have hitherto seen them for nothing, or for founding town halls, dispensaries, and water-works which are ordinarily supposed to be provided from municipal taxation. Then a hat has been sent round by the Prince of Wales and the Indian Governments for subscriptions to the Imperial Institute, and native chiefs and native gentlemen who want to know how a permanent fancy-fair in London can possibly benefit them receive a significant hint that 'the Prince' wishes it, and are told that his mother has reigned fifty years and that she has set her heart on this building. There are other subscription projects already among us or in process of birth, but the above are enough to prove that the Indian public, which is by no means affluent and which still bitterly resents the income-tax, is seriously pestered by this novel supplement to direct taxation, and its natural feelings of loyalty disturbed by these inroads on its resources. Of the object of Lady Dufferin's Fund it is impossible to speak too highly, and it is unfortunate that its promoters should find themselves driven by the presence in the field of other competitors to the occasional use of unseemly forms of solicitation. Of the Prince of Wales' Fund it is difficult to speak within the bounds of courtesy. The Imperial Institute will not do an iota of good to India, it is not believed in even at home, and the attempt to make India pay for the indifference of the English public indicates a great deal of moral cowardice on the part of the India Office. The municipal and district 'Jubilee' funds, if confined strictly to voluntary subscribers, might be pronounced unobjectionable. But in India it is extremely difficult without pressure and active canvassing to get subscriptions for any object, and the 'Jubilee' Funds form no exception to this rule. People are practically obliged to pay, whether they like or not, and the main distinction between a subscription and a direct tax is that the former falls the more heavily of the two on persons of small or moderate means and good social position. This is one very cogent reason for the comparative indifference of the Mahomedan gentry and middle classes to the Jubilee arrangements.

In view of these facts the Government would do well while there is yet time to consider in what sense it proposes to treat this year as a 'Jubilee.' Is the period to be one of rejoicing to the poor, or is it to recall the unpleasing traditions of Papal Jubilees? The term unfortunately has the twofold meaning, and it seems not improbable that our rulers with the best intentions in the world may add another synonym for extortion to the polyglot vocabulary of the Urdu tongue. The truth is that in a matter like this our Government is too serious and too unsentimental to touch the real pulse of native feeling. It considers that the people are so fully convinced of the unspeakable benefits which a far off sovereign has conferred upon them in a protracted reign as to be everywhere eager to tax themselves to commemorate her name by municipal and local works of practical and prosaic utility. But this is not the oriental way of looking at the matter. Without question the people of India are extremely glad that Her Majesty has reigned so long, and believe that her intentions and wishes in respect of this remote realm are always gracious and sympathetic. But their idea is that the rejoicing and the effort should not be confined to them, but that the ruler also should play her part and disclose her affection towards her subjects in some signal manner. It is not forgotten that when Akbar had a son granted him, he filled the tank near the hermit's retreat with silver for the poor and hungry, and that his successors habitually celebrated great days by scattering pearls and rubies among the crowds of Delhi and Lahore. No petty chief would ever ask his people to rejoice with him without doing something for them in return. The idea that in this matter the obligations of ruler and subject are reciprocal is deeply rooted in oriental thought, and our Government, as representing the Queen, would be well-advised not to wholly disregard it. Distribution of honours or release of prisoners or even grants-in-aid for fireworks and illuminations will not suffice. Something broader and more elemental is needed to bring home to the masses throughout the length and breadth of this great realm that the ruler rejoices with them and they with the ruler. It would be a memorable day in India of which it could be said that on it at least no subject of the Queen wanted food or drink or a warm blanket. Whether it is possible to quite realise this ideal is not for us to say, but we believe that if the Government would only accept it as a working principle and would

heartily co-operate with all individual and local efforts based on this principle, the Queen's Jubilee would be a day of rejoicing to the poor and homeless, and the noble lady whom we wish to honour would become a living personage in all her graciousness and womanly charity to thousands who as yet are barely conscious of her existence."

We are sorry that we must incur the appearance of churlishness on an occasion of joy and festivity, but duty is always sacred, and we cannot help raising our voice of warning against what threatens to deplete this impoverished land of what remains of her former riches.

## THE JUBILEE.

### THE VICEROY'S SPEECH.

GENTLEMEN,—It is with equal pride and pleasure that I now come forward to thank the representatives of the various cities, associations, and communities who have gathered around me to-day for the purpose of presenting to her Majesty their congratulations on her having entered the fiftieth year of her reign. A more prosperous reign, a more blameless ruler, or a more beloved sovereign the world has never seen. (cheers). Wisdom, Justice, Piety, Duty, have been the guardians of her throne and the companions of her daily life, and, though it has been impossible for a monarch ruling Dominions which comprise within their limits a fourth of the human race, to escape from those vicissitudes which the responsibilities of Empire entail, it may be said with truth that under her fortunate auspices her people have issued triumphant from every trial, and that, with each revolving year, the foundations of her realm have become more firmly established, and the loyalty and devotion of her subjects to her throne and person have grown more tender and intense (applause). At this moment 200 millions of her Indian subjects are giving expression to the feelings and sentiments I have described, with a unanimity and spontaneity which I believe it would be impossible to parallel in any other country in the world. Of set purpose my Government has left the initiative and the organization of those public rejoicings which are taking place in every capital city, town, and village in India to the unprompted impulses of the people. In a land where official action is generally the prime mover, Officialism has for once stood upon one side, and has left the Nation face to face with its Empress. (cheers). In the simple language which is native to their affectionate disposition, there have gone up to-day from every shrine, from every place of worship, from the tabernacle of every heart, prayers for her happiness, blessings on her goodness, and the incense of an honest and trustful devotion. The great Princes in their Durbars, the Municipalities in their city halls, the soldiers in their barracks, the zemindars in their country houses, the citizens in their pavilioned streets, and the rayyets in their humble homesteads, feel, and justly feel, that the close of half a century which has encompassed and endowed the land with universal peace,—which has brought justice to every cottage door,—which has bridged the floods and pierced the jungle,—which has converted millions of barren acres into well-watered plains,—which has sensibly diminished the risks both of famine and of pestilence,—which has lit a hundred lamps of learning in every chief centre of population, and placed within the reach of the humblest Indian student the accumulated wealth of Western learning, science, and experience,—every English and Indian subject of the Queen, I say, justly feels that such a day of retrospect as this is indeed a fitting occasion for commemoration and mutual congratulations. (Applause).

But if we rejoice in the Past, it is not merely on account of the actual good it has brought us, but because the Past is the parent and creator of the future. Change and development is the law of human existence; and great as have been the achievements, both in England, in the Colonies, and in the country, which will ever render the Victorian era memorable in the annals of history, they will prove, I trust, but the forecast and preface to even greater and still happier times. (Loud cheers). Wide and broad, indeed, are the new fields in which the Government of India is called upon to labour,—but no longer, as of aforetime, need it labour alone. Within the period we are reviewing, Education has done its work, and we are surrounded on all sides by native gentlemen of great attainments and intelligence, from whose hearty, loyal, and honest co-operation we may hope to derive the greatest benefit. In fact, to an Administration so peculiarly situated as ours, their advice, assistance, and solidarity are essential to the successful exercise of its functions (applause). Nor do I regard with any other feelings than those of approval and good-will their natural ambition to be more extensively associated with their English rulers in the administration of their own domestic affairs, and glad and happy should I be if, during my sojourn among them, circumstances permitted me to extend and to place upon a wider and more logical footing the political status which was so wisely given a generation ago by that great statesman Lord Halifax to such Indian gentlemen as by their influence, their acquirements, and the confidence they inspired in their fellow countrymen, were marked out as useful adjuncts to our Legislative Councils. (Loud cheer). But while thus recognizing in the fullest manner the legitimacy of such political aspirations as those to which I have referred, I hope that they will not divert our Indian fellow-subjects from

those equally imperative duties which lie altogether outside the circle of political interests and administrative action, and upon which, indeed, far more than on anything which Government can do, the prosperity of the country depends; such, for instance, as the improvement of our agricultural systems, the reclamation of waste lands, and the planting upon them of the redundant populations at present inconveniently accumulated in congested districts,—the opening up of fresh avenues of industry both to our urban and rural classes by the spread of technical education,—the improvement of the sanitary conditions not merely of our great towns, but of our villages, of our hamlets, and of the dwellings of the poor,—the wise and judicious diffusion of knowledge among the future mothers of the next generation,—the ripening of public opinion in regard to some of those social questions which lie at the root of all domestic happiness and morality,—the expansion and consolidation of that movement on behalf of the better medical treatment of Indian women, in which our Sovereign takes so deep a personal interest,—the development of our native industries, some of which, I am happy to think, are already competing on triumphant terms with their European rivals,—the creation, or, rather I should say, the reintegration of that artistic genius which in former days rendered India famous for her decorative taste, her ornamental treatment of the precious metals, her portrait and miniature painting, and the illumination of her manuscripts,—and finally, the bringing into line of all the more backward populations of every race and creed, so that each may compete on equal terms with the other for whatever prizes this life has to offer, whether in the shape of honourable distinction or material advancement (applause).

These at least are a few of the objects which the past fifty years of Queen Victoria's reign have placed us in a favourable position for pursuing, and most heartily do I join with you in hoping that our loved Empress may live to witness their successful attainments. (Applause). Believe me, I speak from personal knowledge when I say that, among her many pre-occupations and anxieties, there is no section of her subjects whose interests she watches with more loving or affectionate solicitude than your own. Moreover in doing this, she most truly represents, as it is fit and right their Sovereign should, the feelings and instincts of the English people. Through the mysterious decrees of Providence, the British nation and its rulers have been called upon to undertake the Supreme Government of this mighty Empire; to vindicate its honour, to defend its territories, and to maintain its authority inviolate; to rule justly and impartially a congeries of communities, many of them widely differing from each other in race, language, religion, social customs, and material interests; to preserve intact and unimpaired the dignity, rights, and privileges of a large number of feudatory Princes; to provide for the welfare of a population nearly as numerous as that of Europe, and presenting every type of civilization known to history from the very lowest to the very highest; to safeguard and to develop the enormous moral and material British interests which have become inextricably implicated with those of the natives of the soil; to conduct its administration in a way to win the love, confidence and sympathy of races as keenly sensitive to injustice and wrong as they are ready to recognize kindness and righteous dealing; and eventually to evolve from its present intricate and imperfectly adjusted mechanism a homogeneous community so well balanced and co-ordinated, so united in its material interests and in its moral convictions as to form a loyal, patriotic, and compacted whole. Within what period this result is to be achieved is a secret hidden in the distant future, but, of one thing you may be sure, that there is no determination more fixed and immovable in the will of England, there is no wish dearer to the heart of her Majesty and of the British people, than faithfully, firmly, and courageously to discharge the difficult and stupendous duties which I have thus rapidly enumerated, in the interests and for the benefit of our Indian fellow-subjects and brothers. (Loud and prolonged cheers.)

## THE GAZETTE OF INDIA.

EXTRAORDINARY.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

Calcutta, Wednesday, February 16, 1887.

### STAR OF INDIA.

NOTIFICATION.

No. 5 S. I.

Fort William, the 16th February, 1887.

His Excellency the Grand Master of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India is pleased to announce that her Majesty the Queen and Empress of India has been graciously pleased to make the following appointments to the said Order:—

*To be Knights Grand Commanders.*

His Highness Farzand-i-Khas-i-Daulat-i-Inglishia Maharaja Sayaji Rao Gackwar Sena Khas Khel Shamsheer Bahadoor of Baroda.

His Highness Maharana Dhiraj Fateh Singh Bahadoor of Oodeypore.

His Highness Raja Shamsheer Prakash Bahadoor, K. C. S. I., of Sirmur.

*To be Knights Commanders.*

Charles Alfred Elliott, Esq., C. S. I., Bengal Civil Service, Chief Commissioner of Assam.

The Hon'ble William Wilson Hunter, C. S. I., C. I. E., B. A., L. L. D., Bengal Civil Service, Director-General of Statistics to the Government of India, Additional Member of the Council of the Governor-General for making Laws and Regulations, and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Calcutta.

His Highness Maharaja Sri Keshri Singhji Jawan Singhji of Idar.

Colonel William George Davies, C. S. I., Bengal Staff Corps, Financial Commissioner of the Punjab.

Colonel James Johnstone, C. S. I., Bengal Infantry, lately Political Agent in Manipore.

*To be Companions.*

The Hon'ble Charles Gilbert Master, Madras Civil Service, Member of the Council of the Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George.

Charles Haukes Tod Crosthwaite, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

John Graham Cordery, Esq., M. A., Bengal Civil Service, Resident at Hyderabad.

K. Sheshadri Iyer, Esq., Dewan of the Mysore State.

Henry Napier Bruce Erskine, Esq., Bombay Civil Service, Commissioner of Sind.

The Hon'ble Peary Mohun Mookjee, Additional Member of the Council of the Governor-General for making Laws and Regulations.

Frederick Russell Hogg, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, Director General of the Post Office of India.

Brigadier-General William Stephen Alexander Lockhart, C. B., Bengal Infantry, Commanding a Brigade of the Burmah Expeditionary Force.

George James Spence Hodgkinson, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, Commissioner of the Irrawaddy division.

Captain Charles Edward Yate, Bombay Staff Corps, Political Department, lately employed with the Afghan Boundary Commission.

William Rudolph Henry Merk, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, lately employed with the Afghan Boundary Commission.

Nawab Abdul Majid Khan, Honorary Assistant Commissioner and Honorary Magistrate of Lahore.

The Hon'ble James Wallace Quinton, Bengal Civil Service, Member of the Board of Revenue, N. W. Provinces.

Dennis Fitzpatrick, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, Secretary to the Government of India in the Legislative Department.

Rao Chhatrapati Bahadur, Jagirdar of Alipura.

Maung Gaung Kinwun Mingyi, Chief Burmese Councillor of Government.

David Miller Barbour, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Finance and Commerce.

Gerald Seymour Vessey Fitzgerald, Esq.

### INDIAN EMPIRE.

NOTIFICATION.

Fort William, the 16th February, 1887.

No. 4 I. E.

The Queen-Empress, taking into her Royal consideration the expediency of making certain changes in the constitution of the Order of the Indian Empire, as well by altering the designation of the Order as by adding thereto an additional class, so as to enable her Majesty, her Heirs and Successors to reward a greater number of persons who by their services, official or other, to her Majesty's Indian Empire, have merited the Royal Favour, has been graciously pleased, by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date the second day of August last, to revoke and abrogate so much of the Royal Warrant bearing the date the thirty-first day of December, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven, by which the said Order was instituted, as limits the same to the Sovereign, a Grand Master and one Class of Members or Companions, and as is inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of the now recited Letters Patent.

And to ordain, direct, and appoint, that the said Order of Knighthood shall henceforth be styled and designated in all acts, proceedings, and pleadings as "The Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire."

And to ordain, direct, and appoint, that the said Order shall consist of the Sovereign, and a Grand Master, and such ordinary Companions or Members, to be divided into two classes, together with such extra and Honorary Members as her Majesty, her Heirs and Successors shall from time to time appoint.

And to ordain, direct, and appoint, that, her Majesty, her Heirs and Successors, Kings or Queens Regnant of the said United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Emperors and Empresses of India, shall be successively the Sovereign of the said Order, and that the Viceroy and Governor-General of India for the time being shall be Grand Master of the said Order, and shall, in virtue thereof, be the first and principal Knight Commander of the Order.

And to ordain, direct, and appoint, that the said Members shall be divided into two classes, and that the first or higher of the two classes shall be composed of Fifty Members to be styled and designated Knights Commanders of the said Order, and that the second or lower class shall consist of such Members as her Majesty, her Heirs



and Successors shall appoint, to be styled and designated Companions of the said Order: Provided, nevertheless and the Queen there- by ordained, directed and appointed that it should be competent for her Majesty, her Heirs and Successors, to appoint, at her or their pleasure any Princes of the Blood Royal, being descendants of his late Majesty King George the First as extra Knights Commanders.

And to ordain, declare, and appoint, that in all solemn ceremonies and in all places and assemblies the Knights Commanders of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after the Knights Commanders of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, and that the Companions of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after the Companions of the said Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George.

And to ordain, direct and appoint that the said Order shall continue to be governed by Statutes and Ordinances to be from time to time made and ordained by her Majesty, her Heirs and Successors Sovereigns of the same.

In pursuance of the power so vested in the Queen-Empress as Sovereign of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, her Majesty has also been pleased to issue new Statutes for the govern- ment of the said Order, and therein to ordain, direct, and appoint that it shall be competent for the Sovereign of the said Order to confer the dignity of a Knight Commander upon such persons who by their services, official or other to her Majesty's Empire in India have merited the royal favour, and upon such distinguished represen- tatives of Eastern Potentates as her Majesty, her Heirs and Succes- sors may think fit, and the dignity of Companion of this Order on such persons as would according to the before recited provisions be qualified for being nominated to the first class or Knights Com- manders of the said Order.

The Queen has been further pleased, in pursuance of the Statutes aforesaid, to make the following appointments to the said Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire:—

*To be Knights Commanders.*

His Excellency General Sir Frederick Sleigh Roberts, *Bart.*, V. C., G. C. B., C. I. E., Royal Artillery, Commander-in-Chief in India.

The Hon'ble Edmond Drummond, late of the Bengal Civil Service and formerly Member of the Council of her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

The Hon'ble Sir Alfred Comyns Lyall, K. C. B., C. I. E., Lieute- nant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces and Chief Commis- sioner of Oudh.

Robert Anstruther Dalryell, Esq., C. S. I., late of the Madras Civil Service, Member of the Council of her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

The Hon'ble Maxwell Melville, C. S. I., Bombay Civil Service, Member of the Council of the Governor of the Presidency of Bombay.

Major-General Alexander Cunningham, C. S. I., C. I. E., Royal Engineers (Retired), lately Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India.

Thakur Sahib Bhagwat Singhji Sagramji of Gondal.

The Hon'ble Rana Shankar Bakhsh Singh Bahadur, C. I. E., of Thalrai, Additional Member of the Council of the Governor-Gen- eral for making Laws and Regulations.

Dietrich Brandis, Esq., C. I. E., Ph. D., formerly Inspector-Gen- eral of Forests in India.

Sir Monier Monier-Williams, *Kt.*, C. I. E., M. A., D. C. L., LL. D.

Maharaja Pusapati Annada Gajapati Raz of Vizianagram.

Alexander Meadows Rendel, Esq., M.A., Member of the Institute of Civil Engineers.

Donald Campbell Macnabb, Esq., C. S. I., late of the Bengal Civil Service.

Nawab Munir-ud-Daulah Salar Jung Bahadur, Minister of the Hyderabad State.

Sir George Christopher Molesworth Bigdwood, *Kt.*, C. S. I., M. D. LL. D.

His Highness Raja Ranjit Sing of Ratlam.

Surgeon-General Benjamin Simpson, M.D., Indian Medical Service, Surgeon General and Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India.

Albert James Leppoe Cappel, Esq., Director-General of Tele- graphs in India.

Nawab Ali Kadir Syed Hasan Ali Bahadur of Moorshedabad.

Maharaja Luchmessa Singh Bahadur of Darbhanga.

Baboo Sahib Avar, Commander-in-Chief of the Gwalior State.

Donald Mackenzie Wallace, Esq., Private Secretary to his Ex- cellency the Viceroy and Governor-General.

The Hon'ble Alfred Woodley Cresset, C. I. E., M. A., Director of Public Instruction in Bengal, Member of the Council of the Lieute- nant-Governor of Bengal for making Laws and Regulations.

Bradford Leslie, Esq., Agent, East Indian Railway and Chief En- gineer of the Hooghly Bridge.

*To be Companions.*

Carl Ludolf Griesbach, Esq., F. G. S., Deputy Superintendent, Geological Survey of India.

Captain Frederick Duncan Raikes, Bombay Staff Corps, Deputy Commissioner of Alor, Burmah.

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur Mahadev Govind Ranade, M. A., LL.B., Bombay, Additional Member of the Council of the Governor of the Presidency of Bombay for making Laws and Regulations.

William Wordsworth, Esq., M. A., Principal of the Elphinstone College, Bombay.

Captain Albert Frederick DeLassoe, Translator, Foreign Depart- ment, lately employed with the Afghan Boundary Commission.

Sirdar Sher Ahmad Khan, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Punjab, lately employed with the Afghan Boundary Commission.

Ressaldar-Major Muhamad Aslam Khan, Sirdar Bahadur, 5th Ben- gal Cavalry, Commandant, Khyber Jezailchis, lately employed with the Afghan Boundary Commission.

Henry Montagu Mathews, Esq., M. I. C. E., Manager and En- gineer-in-Chief, Burmah State Railway.

Palle Chentsal Row Pantalu, Superintendent of Stamps and Station- ery, Madras.

Colonel John Stewart, Royal Artillery, Superintendent of the Harness and Saddlery Factory, Cawnpore.

Syud Amir Ali, Barrister-at-Law, Calcutta.

Henry Seymour King, Esq.

G. Swann, Esq., Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, Burmah.

Thomas Beatson Christie, Esq., M. D.

William James Maitland, Private Secretary to her Majesty's Sec- retary of State for India.

Maung Pe Si, Myowun of Mandalay.

### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 10th February 1887.—Baboo Mohendro Nath Gupta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakholly, is allowed leave for one month, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

In supersession of the order dated the 21st January 1887, Mr. F. W. Badcock, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Rajshahye, during the absence, on furlough, of Mr. F. J. G. Campbell, or until further orders.

Mr. J. Whitmore, District and Sessions Judge, Furrceepore, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Beerbhoom, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. C. A. Wilkins, or until further orders.

Mr. B. L. Gupta, Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta, on furlough, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Furrceepore, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. J. Whitmore, or until further orders.

The 11th February 1887.—Mr. J. A. Hopkins, Magistrate and Collector, Nuddea, is allowed special leave for six months, under section 61, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 20th March 1887.

Mr. R. M. Waller, Magistrate and Collector, Noakholly, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Nuddea, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J. A. Hopkins, or until further orders.

Mr. A. Barooah, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector Tipperah, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Noakholly, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. R. M. Waller, or until further orders.

Baboo Nobin Krishna Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mymensingh, is allowed leave for one month, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 21st December 1886.

Baboo Doorgadas Chowdry, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Chunder Narain Gupta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Doomka, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is allowed leave for one month, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 18th instant.

The 12th February 1887.—Mr. T. E. Coxhead, *c.s.*, reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 1st February 1887.

The 14th February 1887.—Baboo Chunder Nath Bose, *M.A.*, is appointed temporarily substantive for six months, or until further orders, Bengali Translator to Government.

The 15th February 1887.—Mr. P. H. O'Brien, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Madhubani, Durbhunga, is posted temporarily to the Sudder station of that district.

The 15th February, 1887.—Baboo Uma Charan Ganguli is appoint- ed to be Deputy Collector of Income-tax in the district of Khoolla, and, under section 40 of Act 11 of 1886, is vested with the powers of a Collector under the Act.

JUDICIAL.—The 10th February 1887.—Baboo Sitj Kant Ghose, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bankoora, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

Baboo Sris Chandra Ghose, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manbhoom, is vested with the powers of a Magis- trate of the second class.



# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT).

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

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No. 263

## The Week.

AFTER all nothing comes amiss to this ancient and exclusive Hindu religion of ours. How absurd now appear the fears entertained forty years back that Hindus of different castes would not travel in the same train! The Brahman now goes to Heaven—or, what is the same thing, Benares or Brindaban—cheek by jowl with Mehter in the third class. Pipe water was accepted in solemn conclave of the Pandits of the Preservation of Pure Faith Society. Lately, the Vaishnav Sonarbanias have restored to caste one of their castemen returned from Europe. And now Hinduism has put to religious use both the Telegraph and the Post.

"A Sepoy died a long way from his home and country, and his caste fellows duly cremated him, and having done this, they went to the telegraph office and wired as follows to his parents:—'Binda Persad died last night. Bones by post.'"

The P. O. will make no bones. In our own experience we received through the railway the body of a Mussulman noble in the last stage of dissolving decomposition.

News comes from Behar, through the *Herald &c.*, that "among the numerous Jubilee incidents of Calcutta was a fancy bazar at Wellington Square." And it is news indeed to us who overlook the Square and to our neighbours. Was the preaching of the Salvation Army taken for a fancy bazar? It is a fancy business enough, with the flag of faith unfurled carried by an East Indian in uniform, supported by a naked European, or rather a European in *dhoti*, unshod, surrounded by a gaping multitude like the crows round the fish stalls at a Bengali bazaar.

THE next or the Second Criminal Sessions of the year begins on Thursday, the 10th March 1887, Mr. Justice MACPHERSON presiding.

LESLIE STEPHEN'S "Hours in a Library" vol. III., being out of print, has been omitted from the M. A. Examination for 1887 and 1888.

THE fourth Opium Sale, provision of 1884-85, comes off on Monday, the 4th April 1887.

THE Punjab University has selected the retiring Lieutenant-Governor of the Province for its degree of Doctor of Oriental Learning.

HIS Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught will be installed District Grand Master for Bombay, early in April next.

A COMMITTEE has been appointed at Bombay for remedying the difficulty felt in regard to house accommodation in that city.

THE telegraph to Bhamo is expected to be complete in a few days more.

GREAT rejoicings were making over the birth of a son to the Nizam of Hyderabad when the child suddenly died.

SIR RIVERS THOMPSON has proceeded to Purneah and opened the section of the Assam and Bengal State Railway yesterday.

THE Survey of Calcutta has commenced and owners and occupiers of lands and premises in the town are required by a notification to give every facility to the Surveyors to enter their lands and premises.

CARDINAL JACOBINI, late Pontifical Secretary and a most valuable councillor of the Pope in important matters of Church and State, is dead.

SIR CHARLES ELLIOT will proceed home on six months' leave, during which he will have interviews with the Secretary of State in connection with the work of the Finance Committee.

DR. P. GOETHALS will be solemnly enthroned as the first Roman Catholic Archbishop under the new Hierarchy this day, amidst great pomp. Father LAFONT will preach on the occasion.

DURING February fifty-five thousand and thirty-nine persons visited the Indian Museum. Of natives there were 44,307 males and 9,817 females and of Europeans 744 males and 171 females, the daily average of visitors being 2,620.

MR. ELLIOT COLVIN, C. S., Assistant to the Governor-General's Agent in Rajputana, will be Sir STEUART BAYLEY'S Private Secretary.

Colonel Sir WEST RIDGEWAY is talked of as the successor of Sir EDWARD BRADFORD in the Rajputana Agency.

THERE was a meeting at Patna under the presidency of Nawab LUTF ALI KHAN, C. I. E., for deciding upon a memorial of their retiring Commissioner, Mr. HALLIDAY. About a thousand rupees was subscribed at the meeting. These officials ought to be ashamed of getting up these vanities. The Government ought to interdict them in right earnest.

A DACOITY took place near Agra on the Gwalior road on the morning of Thursday. The gang was over 100 strong and well equipped with muskets, horses and conveyances, and looted a caravan of carts. The spoil is valued at Rs. 3,000.

THE latest reports of the earnings of the Darjeeling-Himalayan railway show considerable falling off in the revenue, as compared with last year. The decrease is over eight thousand rupees in the earnings from January to 19th February 1887, as against the same period last year.

THE new Trustees under the new Indian Museum Act (IV of 1887) are—the Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Revenue Department, the Director of the Agricultural Department, Bengal, A. SIMSON, Esq., Hajee JACKARIAH NOOR MAHOMED HOSSEIN, and Baboo AMRITA NATH MITTER.

Hajee JACKARIAH is, we doubt not, our old friend NOOR. But when did he start this surname? Proud as he is of his Arab extraction, how comes he to get the Persian appellation?

Baboo AMRITA NATH is thus consoled for the seat in the Bengal Council which he had been led to expect.

Either name will be a surprise in the new connection. They might just as well be made Law Professors or sent to command the troops in Burma.

NAWAB MUNEEER-UL-MULK, brother of Sir SALAR JUNG is expected to leave Hyderabad in April or May on a tour to Europe. He will pass through Turkey, Russia, Germany, and France, where his stay must be necessarily short, if he is to be present, as the report says, at the celebration of the Jubilee in England at the middle of June.

AFTER all, there is no foundation for the report that two British officers had been arrested in Russia as spies. The officers concerned have themselves written to the *Standard* to say that, far from having received any rough treatment, they met everywhere with the greatest hospitality, cordiality and kindness.

THE consolidated and amended Provincial Small Cause Court Act (IX of) 1887, received the assent of the Governor-General on the 24th February, 1887. It extends to the whole of British India outside the local limits of the Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction of the High Courts at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay, and comes into operation from the 1st July, 1887.

SIR CHARLES AITCHISON makes over charge of his office of Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab to Mr. J. D. LYALL, on the 2nd April—at Delhi, and will be there and then sworn an ordinary member of the Governor-General's Council. The Viceroy's Legislative Council meet at the old Imperial capital on the 1st April to consider the Punjab Land Bills.

WE read in the *East* of the 26th February—

"Messrs. Sarma & Co. have been celebrating the Jubilee in an original and useful manner. They have been distributing, and will, for the whole of February current, distribute their 'non-quinine pills' gratis to the poor."

Are these non-quinine pills of the Sarma Baboos like the nihilums with which the Homœopaths humour their importunate patients, and equally valuable and efficacious?

THE Calcutta Public Library continues to be in a bad way. The receipts are about Rs. 7,000 against an expenditure of Rs. 12,556, and to meet the excess a part of the Government securities has had to be sold. The application for Government aid has not been sanctioned, though Sir RIVERS THOMPSON has agreed to pay for the printing of the catalogues of books of the Library and has given a new binding to about 1,000 old books.

BABOO RAMAVATAR PANDE, B. A., Deputy Collector and Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Benares, Syed HAMBULLA, barrister-at-law, of Allahabad, and Syed MAHOMED ALI, B. A., of Allyghur, are the Statutory Civilians of the year for the N. W. P. A very good appointment has been made in Madras in the promotion of RAMCHANDRA IYER, Presidency Magistrate, to the post of Covenanted Head Assistant Collector, with the prospect of a District Civil and Sessions Judgeship after a year and a half's Revenue and Magisterial work.

A PLEASING little incident marked the Jubilee at Bombay. On the Hindus and Parsees of that city having sent memorials to the Government that there might be no slaughter of the cow on the Jubilee day, and the Government having simply forwarded the memorials to the proper parties, the Mahomedans took the hint in the right spirit and no cows were killed at the Bandora slaughter house on the 16th February. Lord REAY has issued a Resolution expressing his satisfaction at this manifestation of good feeling on the part of the Mahomedans.

THE Jubilee Review at Akher-shot will be an imposing spectacle, as over 100,000 troops are to take part in it. The proposal to send representatives of the native army in India and of the Colonial forces has been abandoned on the ground of expense. The English Jubilee will be celebrated on the 21st and not on 20th June. On the former date the Queen will attend a special Divine Service at St. Paul's. The Parliament will soon be asked to grant a special vote for the expenses. The pageant is expected to be a most brilliant one.

AN Irish nobleman, Lord DONERAILE, has been bit by a pet fox domesticated for six years, but which appears to have been attacked with the

rabies without notice. It was in the course of a drive on the 14th January that the animal which accompanied his Lordship not only made a snap at his gloved hand and drew blood but also bit the coachman in the hand and the foot. The fox died on the 16th and the *post mortem* declared it to have been rabid. Both the nobleman and his coachman have gone for treatment to M. PASTEUR at Paris.

A TRAGIC case of suicide is reported from the high seas. Mr. FRANK WHITE, of the staff of the *Bombay Gazette*, and who had been meditating to give up that connection for joining an appointment in Australia, was appointed by Lord BRASSEY one of his Private Secretaries, and was proceeding in the *Sunbeam*, when on the 26th February, shortly after midday, when the *Sunbeam* was proceeding under full sail, Mr. WHITE jumped overboard. In spite of immediate efforts to rescue him, his body was not found. Letters subsequently found show that the act was premeditated, though no reason is assigned for it. He was much loved and esteemed at Bombay.

WE regret to hear that Dr. ANANDABAI JOSHI is dead. She will be remembered as the enterprising Mahratta lady, wife of the Postmaster of Serampore in Bengal, who had proceeded to America for medical education. Having attained the objects of her journey she had just returned to Bombay where, in anticipation of her arrival, she had been appointed principal medical officer of the Female Hospital at Kolhapore. The circumstances of the case make her untimely death, just when on the eve of turning her hard won knowledge to account, almost tragic.

THE *Times of India* says that at an educational conference recently held at Bombay in connection with the question of higher education, Lord REAY assured the native gentlemen present that he was in no way hostile to higher education, and that the rumour about the abolition of 17 higher schools had no foundation. His Excellency also stated that the grant for technical education would be separate and distinct from the present educational expenses of Government.

THE *Statesman* publishes the following news from Burma:—

"RANGOON, February 28.  
The Theebaw Tswabwa leaves Mandalay to-morrow.  
The official summary repeats that the negotiations with the Woontho Tswabwa have been broken off. On Tuesday Mr. Cloney and a Burmese official had an interview with him, which was interrupted by a misunderstanding between the police escort and Tswabwa's men, and shots were exchanged, but Mr. Cloney succeeded in restoring confidence. The interview ended peacefully.  
On the 19th the dacoits attacked a column from Okkan while crossing the Moo river, but were repulsed, one private severely, others were wounded.—The Shwaybo district is still somewhat disturbed by scattered bands of dacoits.—Order is being restored in the Maingthong State under an official nominated by the Deputy Commissioner of Mogoke.—Three dacoities are reported to have taken place in the Mandalay district, in one of which fifteen houses were burnt. Mandalay otherwise has been quiet.—Some dacoits were attacked successfully near Sadoung in the Sagaing district on Wednesday, and great loss inflicted on them.—The Yeao district is reported quiet, as is also the lower Chindwin, where the revenue collection and disarmament is being pushed on.—Two encounters with dacoits are reported in the Myingyan district.—The Yaw Column from Pagan have had two successful encounters.—The settlement of Yaw is progressing satisfactorily.—In Minbo district Boh Shway Oktama's camps have been surprised and several dacoits killed. A quantity of property was captured.—The Toungdwingyee district is somewhat disturbed.—The Yamethen and Pymmana road is reported quiet. It is frequented by traders.—The Pymmana district is still disturbed with small dacoit gangs.—Yamethen and Meiktila are fairly quiet.—In Koomay the Thoogyee Meiktila killed a dacoit leader who attacked his village.

March 2.

About one hundred dacoits rushed into Toungdwingyee on Monday night, firing a portion of the town. They got off free. Sixty houses were burnt.

Referring to Mr. Gorst's reply in the House of Commons regarding the ruby mines the *Rangoon Gazette* says that extraordinary facilities have been given Mr. Streeter's party, who announced themselves to the miners as the lessees from Government. All other private individuals are prevented from visiting the mines.

To add to the embarrassment of the good people of Madras, the Committee of the People's Fair have been called upon to pay Rs. 25 each on account of the legal and other expenses connected with the enquiry about the fire, which fire saddened many a hearth and which enquiry resulted in nothing. The character and extent of this taxation may be understood from the fact that every subscriber of Rs. 15 upwards is *ipso facto* a member of the Committee. The funds were swelled by

this attraction. The privilege will now strike many poor fellows as little short of a calamity. It is scarcely necessary to dwell upon the feelings of those who lost their limbs or their dear ones in the unlucky *Tamasha*.

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AT the request of the Port Commissioners, the Lieutenant-Governor has exempted wheat from the terminal charge levied on goods from and to the Howrah station. The order will have effect from 1st April.

MR. DYARAM GIDUMAL, B. A., LL. B., a Probationer in the Bombay Presidency, has been confirmed by the Governor-General in Council as a Statutory Civilian.

MR. J. SMITH and Mr. R. J. LEEDS, of the Bengal Civil Service, have been permitted to resign.

THE control and management of the various Railways in Northern and Eastern Bengal having their terminus in Calcutta, are transferred from under the administration of the Director-General of Railways to that of the Government of Bengal. This arrangement is made on financial grounds as well as in the interests of commerce and the public, and will have effect from 1st April.

THE Bank of Bengal has lost another old officer in Mr. JOHN GORDON, Chief Accountant and Deputy Secretary, who has retired from its service. Mr. R. L. BISS, Cashier, succeeds him.

THE owner of a nostrum for the treatment and cure of small-pox, the initials of whose name are the letters J. L. W., has hit on an effective advertisement. He writes to the *Indian Daily News* to say that he is anxious to send, for only the cost of transit and without any remuneration, a copy of his prescription for the benefit of Prince ALEXANDER of Bulgaria who is reported by Reuter to have got an attack of that disease. J. L. W. guarantees cure by his remedy, which he says has succeeded in nine hundred and ninety-nine out of thousand cases, but he is modestly doubtful whether his prescription would be accepted. He also does not know how the prescription should be transmitted. In a note, the editor, after telling him that the cost of transit is a bagatelle, namely the postage, adds that the patient would either be well or dead before the prescription could reach him, and wonders why if it were such an invaluable remedy, J. L. W. should not publish it.

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BETWEEN the V. P. P. conveying goods from England direct to individual customers in India, and the pressure of the exchange, the respectable European tradesmen in our great cities are in a bad enough way already. And now an unexpected competition confronts them. Wednesday's *Englishman* contained important news—the conversion of Belvedere into an aristocratic sale-room. Let the COOKS and the BROWNS in special look out. To begin with, a horse coach and harness-mart has been opened in the great Palace. Through that *Moniteur Official* of his Government, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, by his Private Secretary, advertises a number of fine horses, and elegant equipages. The sale-master is Mr. BARNES—we beg pardon, “F. C. BARNES, Esq.” There is no belief in the virtues of competition in the establishment, everything has its price—fixed. Here is an opportunity to friends and admirers for a good turn. The other terms are—payment down at once—no tick—though no delivery will be given till after the 3rd April next, when Sir RIVERS bids farewell to Bengal and India—the goods remaining at the risk of the purchaser.

Whatever may be thought of its fairness, that last condition will be eminently convenient to the present owner and will preserve the outward decencies of the office. More than this it is perhaps vain to expect of the successors of the Company's writers. The only truly magnificent occupant of Belvedere in these latter days was Sir GEORGE CAMPBELL. He did not occupy his last days of power with making inventories of household furniture. He lived to the last moment as usual and befitting his position, leaving his things to be disposed of leisurely, after he left the land.

## Editorial Notes.

THE political state of Europe shows no change. The most pacific assurances continue to be exchanged by the Powers, while there is not the least relaxation in their military preparations to justify those assurances. For months, the whole of Europe is presenting the appearance of one immense Camp ready at a moment's notice for the fray. The relations of Austria and Russia on the Bulgarian question seem to be highly strained, while the part which Germany or the Porte is likely to take in any encounter that may possibly break out between them, is the subject of continual speculation. On the one hand, Germany, conscious of having too deeply wronged France to be forgiven, cannot afford to estrange the sympathies of a great military power like Russia. Rumours are also, from time to time, afloat of a growing disposition on the part of Turkey to throw in her lot with her ancient enemy. The latest utterances of English opinion on the Bulgarian question are, however, in the direction of peace. Lord SALISBURY seems to be assured that the question of Bulgarian independence is safe in the keeping of the great Powers who had signed the treaty of Berlin, so as to obviate the necessity of England alone taking any action in the matter. The state of uncertainty, however, is heavily taxing the financial resources of the states. The demand everywhere is for more subsidies for war preparations. Austria has just asked for a military credit of 53 millions of florins, and even Italy has fallen a victim to the war craze. As to Egypt, the latest expressions of English ministerial opinion on the subject put off the abandonment of that country as indefinitely as ever.

Since the above was in type, there has been an attempt at an insurrection in Silistria by some of the dismissed Bulgarian officers. It was quickly put down.

THE *Pioneer* says:—

“There has been some excitement in Khatmandoo lately, owing to a rumoured conspiracy to oust the present Government. It would seem that some 200 men gathered at Raksul, about 20 miles north of our old military station at Segowlie, and though unarmed, their presence caused alarm, as large stores of arms and ammunition were said to be stored in the neighbourhood. Seventeen hundred sepoys were said to have deserted from the Nepal Army, and to be marching on Raksul, there to await General Ranabir Jung, son of Jung Bahadoor. This Prince is a refugee in India, and never conceals his intention of trying his fortune some time or other in Nepal, from which he was driven when the *coup d'état* some two years ago took place. He had been at Segowlie lately, but on February 19th was at Motithary. He was arrested there by our police, news of the impending conspiracy having been sent to India from Khatmandoo. The after-course of events showed the danger more imaginary than real. The 1,700 sepoys have never been heard of, so that part of the story is discredited; while as to the 200 unarmed men at Raksul, if they were really waiting for Ranabir Jung, they have since returned to their homes. The stores of arm and ammunition, too, have not been found. Ranabir has been taken to Patna, and there released on his promise not to leave that place without permission; and the threatened storm has blown over.”

Our Government has clearly been the victim of a hoax. Of course it has acted at the instance of the Nepal Ministry whose information turned out to be false. A dread of sudden revolution is the normal condition of the mind of the ruler *de facto* of Nepal. After the late *coup d'état* this is more than ever the case. The Government of India must be prepared for constant calls for interference. But it must take care to guard its peace and its dignity by courteous evasion. The Residency should not lightly believe in the bugbears of the terrified imaginations of the men in power in the country. The air of Khatmandoo is always, and now more than ever, filled with scarcely audible rumours of plots of assassination, massacre, revolution and raid from British territory. This is the hourly torture with which the Nemesis of retribution visits the ambitious miscreants who wade through slaughter of their kinsmen to power. They suspect every harmless sign—start at the rustling of leaves. They can trust nobody. They are rightly served. Why should the Government of India try to make things pleasant for them?

SIR RIVERS THOMPSON left Calcutta for Dacca on the night of Friday and reached his destination by 7 P. M., the next day. The stations of Naraingunge and Dacca were decorated and illuminated for his Honor's reception. The investiture of Nawab ABDUL GUNNY with the insignia of the Order of the K. C. S. I. took place on Monday afternoon, at the Marble Hall of the Shah Bagh. The Lieutenant-Governor, in

presenting him with the insignia, spoke at great length in praise of the noble deeds of beneficence which had marked the life of the old Nawab and of his services to the Government in various public capacities filled by him. In course of his speech, his Honor announced the offer that had been conveyed to him in a letter by the Nawab's son to light the main roads and streets of Dacca, which are now lighted with oil lamps, with gas, entirely at his own cost, as a token of his appreciation of the enthusiasm shown by his fellow-citizens, both Hindu and Mahomedan, at his father's investiture. The offer was further enhanced in value by the liberal conditions attached to it, *viz.*, that the Nawab will maintain the gas works free of all cost, the municipality undertaking to spend on improved sanitation and the purchase and maintenance of fire engines the sum thus set free from lighting.

A STRANGE "temperance" case is being discussed in the Bombay Presidency. The periodical changes in the excise regulations there had gradually sent up the duty on toddy to such a height as to cause extreme hardship and dissatisfaction among the trading as well as the consuming classes. Bitter were the wailings of the classes used to the exhilarating beverage, and many were the representations of the sellers to Government, but all in vain. At length things came to such a pass in one district, *viz.*, Colaba, that there were apprehensions of a serious breach of the peace. But there the good sense of the people saved them. In their bewilderment, however, they hit on the scarcely less desperate expedient of giving up the indulgence in the liquor. Whether they cherished the hope thereby ultimately of forcing the hands of the excise authorities to reduce the duty as the only alternative rather than forego the entire revenue, it is not for us to say, and needless to inquire. Suffice it to say that they started a Temperance movement. This was a severe checkmate for Government. Even this did not open its eyes. Instead of trying to wean its customers to their old ways of drunkenness by reduction of price and general moderation, this great publican state proceeded to force the people to its bar by the persecution of the law and the Police. One of the leaders of this movement, VISHNOO GOBIND PINDANKUR, an Inamdar of some means, has been prosecuted by the Government on a charge of criminal intimidation, inasmuch as he is alleged to have endeavoured to prevent persons, under threats of religious bans and penalties, from obtaining liquor. On the part of the accused it is contended that his prosecution by the Government is an act of interference with the religious convictions of the people. His crusade against drink is justified on religious considerations and regarded in the same light as if he made a similar movement against the eating of beef by Hindus. In the meantime, the accused had applied to the Bombay High Court for transferring his case from the district, on the ground that feeling against him amongst the local officers was so strong as to preclude any chance of his getting a fair trial at their hands. The High Court, however, has rejected the application.

THE Mahomedan Endowments Committee seem to be determined to divert funds endowed for purely religious purposes towards the advancement of secular education. They are probably acting on the principle, that the end sanctifies the means. They must, however, be very much mistaken in the course they are taking. The Mahomedan members are divided in their interpretation of the word *ilm* as used in deeds of endowment by pious Mahomedans. Nawab ABDUL LUTFEH Bahadur and Moulvie ABDUL JUBBER are of opinion that it means knowledge of divine subjects, while a majority of the members support the interpretation of Mr. AMIR ALI, C. I. E., that it means knowledge in general, both divine and secular. The President of the Committee, the Hon'ble Mr. PAUL, Advocate-General, was, however, scarcely fair in throwing in the weight of his opinion into the scale of the majority. It is a question essentially for the Mahomedan community to determine, and Nawab ABDUL LUTFEH Bahadur's suggestion that evidence should be collected on the point was, to say the least, a very moderate one. The President objected to the enquiry on the alleged ground that it was perplexing, embarrassing and confusing. The impatience of a thorough discussion of the point shown by Mr. PAUL was highly unbecoming.

OUR native contemporaries have waxed wroth over the evidence of Mr. JOHN BEAMES, Commissioner of the Burdwan Division. The

evidence is outrageous in all conscience, but it should be remembered that Mr. BEAMES is but a man, and that in giving his evidence he was only paying back the usage he is wont to receive at the hands of the native press. Did not the native press set up a howl over the rumoured appointment of Mr. BEAMES on the very Commission, as well as in succession to the reported vacancy in the Chairmanship of the Calcutta Municipality? Again, it is well known that Mr. BEAMES is the father of a rather inconveniently large number of children, the male ones of whom he is naturally anxious to get into the Civil Service which he himself found suitable to his tastes. Any prospect of a large encroachment upon the loaves and fishes of that Service by the natives, is therefore naturally regarded by him with the jealousy and resentment born as it were of personal wrong.

ANOTHER great engineering work, the Benares bridge, will be open by the beginning of next cold season. It is more than three times the length of the Hooghly bridge.

THE Calcutta Public Health Society held its annual meeting this week, Sir RIVERS THOMPSON being in the chair. Lady DUFFERIN honored the occasion with her presence. In congratulating the Society on the work which it has been doing, Sir RIVERS THOMPSON referred to the controversy which, during the last four years, had prevailed, sometimes not without bitterness, on the subject of sanitary improvements in Calcutta, and to the part taken by his Government and the Society in that controversy. As an effect of those discussions, it was decided that the sanitary arrangements of Calcutta and the Suburbs should be placed under one system, and a Bill for the amalgamation of the Suburbs with the Calcutta Municipality had therefore been brought into the Council. Sir RIVERS regretted that the Bill could not be passed before he left the country, but legislation, he said, was a dilatory business, and it was particularly so when they had to deal with a Bill of some 400 sections which that Bill contained. One of the causes of the so-called delay, as Sir RIVERS said, was the consideration which had to be bestowed on the lengthy representation submitted by the Health Society with respect to the Bill. In moving the adoption of the report and the accounts, Dr. SIRCAR regretted the want of support with the objects of the Society from the intelligent public in general, and especially from men of his profession, and combatted the notion that the Society was in any way hostile to the scheme of Local Self-Government. There were other speeches, among which the concluding one was a warm defence of the institution from its President, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, who passed a severe condemnation on the insanitary conditions existing in this country.

THE District Charitable Society in Calcutta, which held yesterday its fifty-fifth annual meeting, is pursuing its work of benevolence from year to year in its own quiet way. Its expenditure during the past year, on relief to the poor, on the Alms House, and the Leper Asylum, aggregated about Rs. 89,000. The Society received some liberal donations in the year, *viz.*, Rs. 1,500 from the Begum of Bhopal, Rs. 500 from the Maharaja of Cashmere, Rs. 1,000 from Mr. KESWICK, Rs. 1,000 from Mr. MACKINNON, and Rs. 500 from Mr. JAS. ALLEN.

THEIR Excellencies the Viceroy and the Countess of Dufferin are expected to honor the Star Theatre of Calcutta with their presence on Tuesday evening, to witness the performance of *Sitar Banabash* and of a society skit. The enterprising managers of the Theatre are all astir in making suitable arrangements for the reception of their august visitors. There will be three fountains of rose water at play at the portico and the Dress Circle.

WE hope our native contemporaries will gradually extend the range of their sympathies. There are subjects of great moment which they do not touch. Instead of crying themselves hoarse for formal representation in the legislature, for instance, they might pay some attention to the ill-important subject of the defence of the country. A good opportunity for discussion was offered them by us in the lengthy articles on the subject from the pen of Captain HEARSEY published in our paper. But they did not see it. The silence of the Anglo-Indian Press of Northern India is, of course, studied, and due to the gallant Captain's personal unpopularity with his countrymen for having so

stoutly espoused the cause of the poor about him and of the people. The press of other parts of India has done him more justice. Madras has noticed his scheme in several elaborate articles. The fate of that scheme is, however, independent of any local newspaper criticism. It has been widely circulated throughout the world, and testimonies to its originality, its practicability, and its importance, from professional judges and high military functionaries, are pouring in upon us and upon him. By far the most irresistible proof of its worth is the interest it has excited among the military Powers on the Continent. Thus the *Oesterreichische Zeitung*, a leading political organ published in Vienna, in its issue of the 1st February, writes:—

“The Cheap Defence of the Nation.” This is the title of a pamphlet by Captain ANDREW HEARSEY published at the *Reis & Rayyet* Office, Calcutta. It discusses very comprehensively and in superior style the state of the Indian Army and culminates in a proposal to enlarge the army by incorporating the troops of the native feudal Lords. The little work is carried out with much professional knowledge and characterises the writer as a strategical authority. Interested parties should not lose the opportunity of obtaining copies. We intend shortly to report more in detail on the pamphlet and also on its author.”

Before long the Government of India will be compelled to take up the consideration of both the articles in *Reis & Rayyet*, if they are not already considering them.

THE Mahomedan Literary Society has established itself as one of the institutions of Calcutta. It is already a generation old. In fact its Silver Jubilee is a question of a couple of years only. The twenty-third Conversazione of the Mahomedan Literary Society, held at the Town Hall on the evening of the 25th February last, was an unqualified success. There was the usual exhibition of art and artistic industry, of rare curiosities and valuable articles, as well as of physical and chemical experiments. Scientific experiments may have become more common in Calcutta since the period when the Mahomedan Literary Society was first started and when great magnates, not Viceroys and Governors and Generals and High Court Judges only but foreign princes like the King of Siam and others, were found to press and linger round the experiments of Rai KANYE LAL DEY Bahadoor and the Hon'ble Dr. SIRCAR and the Rev. Father LAFONT and the late TAMEEZ Khan Bahadoor, with almost boyish curiosity. But Science is in its growth and there is always something new every year. The collection of works of art and of curios and novelties was as good as ever. LAI FONG, the Chinese Painter, and Mr. ARCHER, a Scotch Painter recently arrived, exhibited some interesting portraits. A sight rare in the East was the display by Kumar PROMODE KUMAR TAGORE of the numerous foreign Orders received by his father Raja Sir SOURINDRO MOHAN TAGORE. The portraits in crayon of the Queen, the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor, drawn by a young painter from Boston, Mr. CLAUS, attracted much notice. The gathering was fairly large, the Mahomedan and the European community of the town having made the strongest muster. Most of the leading European officials graced the occasion with their presence. Sir CHARLES AITCHISON and a few other members of the Public Service Commission now in Calcutta, also attended. The centre of attraction was, of course, the Viceroy, who spent a long time in looking at every object of interest in a leisurely way which so markedly contrasts him from the usual hurried manner characteristic of the West. The Lieutenant-Governor with his staff was also there en route to Dacca. Nawab ABDOOL LUTEEF Bahadoor was, as usual, full of courtesy to all his guests, being well seconded in his attentions to the party by some of the leading members of the Literary Society, notably Prince JEHAN KUDR and Mr. ABDUR RAHMAN.

LOYALTY on the seashore can not lightly be allowed to lighten the burden of life's sorrows by the dissipation of illumination. The recent Jubilee demonstrations in that line at Bombay distinctly dislocated the arrangements in the Marine Department for the safety of the world's shipping and of course the commerce and lives on board. We are told the Bombay Government telegraphed to the Government of Ceylon as follows:—

“Shipping should be warned that Bombay will be brilliantly illuminated 16th and 17th February on account of Queen's Jubilee, and that visibility of harbour lights may be affected thereby.”

We suppose the same warning was conveyed to Aden and to the

ports of the Malabar Coast and the whole Eastern shore of the Arabian Sea.

We wonder whether Madras took any precautions. It depended not only on forethought, but also on the ecstasy of light to which the Be-nighted might aspire. If her effort only made her normal darkness visible, no warning was required.

THE “tie” in the election of the Tagore Law Professor has at last been got over by a triumph. The Faculty of Law had recommended to the Syndicate that either of the two candidates, Messrs. LALMOHAN DAS and GOLAP CHANDRA SIRKAR, who had obtained equal votes, might be appointed. The Syndicate, however, with a better appreciation of its duty and proper respect for the able and eminent men in the long list of candidates, preferred to keep the whole question open for the decision of the Senate and therefore made no specific recommendation in regard to the two candidates. The Senate met on Friday. Dr. RAJENDRALALA endeavoured to create a diversion by moving an amendment that, before the election of a Professor, the meeting should select the subjects of the lectures. The amendment was lost, when votes were taken with the following result in respect of the most favored candidates:—

Golap Chandra Sirkar	...	...	31
Lal Mohan Das	...	...	21
Asutosh Mookerjee	...	...	14

Babu ASUTOSH's name being eliminated, votes were taken a second time on the two original competitors, resulting in a still more decisive majority for Professor GOLAP CHANDRA SIRKAR, who scored 43 votes against 23 for Mr. LAL MOHAN DAS. While we congratulate Babu GOLAP CHANDRA SASTRI on his success, we must sympathise with Babu ASUTOSH who would have had as good a chance as any if he had stepped into the field in more right earnest and did a little active canvassing from an earlier stage of the competition. The part we have taken in the discussion of this election may have perhaps exposed us to some misunderstanding in some quarters. Perhaps we spoke too strongly and in a way that jarred on some delicate nerves. We spoke as an Indian and as a Brahman, perhaps, without meaning any offence to any body, and not a word of what we wrote was inspired by any interests except those of national education. We believe in blood, and it is a belief we share with our countrymen. If we have in any degree contributed to the result—a doubtful point, seeing that the question was not one of birth only—we are not sorry for having prevented a scandal. It may be a prejudice, but India is not yet prepared to sit at the feet of the very lowest classes of society. The Public Service Commission may take a note of it.

WE are glad to be able to announce that our efforts to draw public attention to the oppressions of the Arnigad Zemindars, and the persecution of their friend Captain HEARSEY at the hands of the Government of the North-Western Provinces, has not been altogether vain. Five months ago we gave a hint of exertions being made to bring the subject before Parliament. Those exertions have borne this much of fruit that Lord STANLEY of Alderley has given notice in the House of Lords of his intention to call for the fullest information on the whole subject from the Secretary of State. Lord STANLEY is an authority on India, having been in the country and all along taken an intelligent sympathetic interest in it. It is no light thing to undertake a cause in Parliament. He can have no other motive than pure philanthropy to espouse the cause of the poor despoiled Rajpoots. We only hope he will stick to it. For the immediate reply of the Government will scarcely be satisfactory, and the subject will require prosecuting. The Government of India might, if it chose, prevent much botheration to itself add a great Indian scandal. In any case, it should leave the N. W. P. administration to its own arts of cookery and concoction. The oppressor must help himself, and here we have a Pandit of a grand Pasha.

WE congratulate Mr. N. M. KHORRY on his well-earned title of Khan Bahadoor. A sturdy lawyer who does yeoman's service to suitors in the close atmosphere of Central India, by his bold but respectful bearing, a staunch but sober patriot who sacrificed business to come all the way to the National Congress at Calcutta without showing the slightest disposition to air his eloquence or purchase a cheap notoriety, he is a valuable member of Mhow society. Locally, he is favorably known for his anonymous contributions to journalism. In this capacity he has criticised the neighbouring Princes and Chiefs with exem-

plary but not hostile freedom. If we remember aright, at one period his candid pen was the humble instrument of the people's protection and the Chief's safety in the neighbouring state. Khan Bahadur KHORY, has, we see, commemorated the Jubilee characteristically, by starting an English fortnightly journal at Mhow, called the *Central India Times*. There is need of light penetrating these isolated regions, and we think our friend's venture will prove a useful addition to the Indian press.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1887.

### THE COMING BUDGET.

A FORECAST.

WE are close on the appearance of the Budget. It will probably not be published before the 25th instant, though the draft of the main portion must be ready for approval of the Viceroy before his Excellency leaves the capital on the 16th. Sir AUCKLAND COLVIN might then remain behind for the completion. What sort of a Budget will it be? is at this moment a natural subject of inquiry. Ordinarily, there would be much keen and even uneasy curiosity felt as to the character of such an important manifesto. Speculation is usually rife as to the lines on which it might be cast, its forecast of the revenue, its estimate of the expenditure, and, last not least, its possible measures of taxation. The various Provincial Governments, with their several departments, the representatives of trade and commerce, the Services, as well as the general public all look forward to the Budget with interest sometimes deepened to anxiety. Much more anxiously would the Budget of a bad year of financial difficulty have been naturally watched, were it not for a recent announcement in the press such as it was, that there was no intention, after all, of resorting to fresh taxation in the year at hand. That announcement, whatever its validity, has gone a great way to allay public anxiety which had been wrought up to a pitch of distress by the previous report of an opposite character. Nor does it appear unlikely that some proposals of fresh taxation had been actually before the Government of India. Never since the luck of a BARING ceased to preside at the Indian Exchequer, have that Government been in greater want of money for meeting, along with the varied demands of ordinary administration, the cost of the extraordinary military operations. The war in Burma has been a serious drain on our resources, nor is there a near prospect of the cessation of that drain. The prosecution of frontier and harbour defences is another fruitful source of expenditure. These extraordinary demands could not be met without extraordinary supplies. Whence then were supplies to come? It is idle to look to retrenchment of the ordinary expenditure for any more than a partial relief. Economy cannot be effected all on a sudden, and its effects must in the nature of things be slow in their operation. The demands upon the exchequer for the purposes of war and of military defences, were on the contrary immediate and urgent. The question before the Government was an imperative one. On its being referred to the Home Government, the Government of India were, if we are rightly informed, advised to look to fresh taxation for their remedy. The Government of India, however, took a juster view of the situation. They knew how unpopular the Income Tax already was and how much odious any addition to it would be. The Salt Tax could not be increased without imposing a burden on the poorer classes—a

burden which could be escaped only by deprivation of a fundamental article of diet. There are other grave objections against an increase of the salt duty which were forcibly set forth in Sir AUCKLAND COLVIN's memorable Budget speech of last year. If therefore our information be correct, and the Government of India have made up their mind to meet the financial crisis without having recourse to new taxation, they have shown great wisdom, self-restraint and sympathy with the people, in their choice of alternatives.

That, however, is the threshold of the matter. Therein, indeed, will be the difficulty of their task. How else are they to meet the deficit? It is difficult to say what may be in contemplation, but it is just possible that there may be not much of a deficit after all to meet. That sounds more like conjuring than financing, but how often is the wish father to the thought! and in such situations facts, instead of proving stubborn things, discover a most genial accommodating spirit. Lord MELBOURNE's epigram—There is nothing so misleading as facts, except figures, is the expression of mature statesmanship. Apart from the exaggeration, the saying embodies the truth that facts and figures give out different meanings under different dispositions. Much might depend upon the Government Dewan's treatment of figures. The crisis is one to tempt him to the most brilliant exercises in political arithmetic. Yet the result may be achieved without anything savouring of sharp practice. In a vast Empire with an enormous account-sheet, there is almost always room for the play of arithmetical skill and financial genius. A little shuffling—legitimate—of accounts makes a wonderful change—may transform a disaster into a triumph.

We do not know if such a feat is in store for us, but that is a possibility that suggests itself to us. From the remembrance of last year, we should not be surprised if the Famine Insurance Fund was treated in a way to lay the dread ghost of Deficit to repose. If it should be so, we believe the country would embrace it as an escape from taxation. As for the objection of breach of faith, *Salus populi est suprema lex*. But the occasion scarcely calls for such extreme appeals. The explanations in the last Financial Statement convinced most men that the acute authors of the Fund had left distinct saving clauses by virtue whereof the Fund might be put to any decent use in such times as these. There may still be a lingering sentiment in some minds against such utilization, but except in the improbable event of a scandalous misuse, no particular offence will be taken. Indeed, provided the expenditure on reproductive or insuring works like railways is not withdrawn, coupled with an explanation that the present is a temporary expedient in a year of financial distress to avoid the alternative of fresh taxation, the public will, we are sure, be reconciled to it.

For the rest, the Budget of 1887-88 will be mainly dependent for maintaining equilibrium, we anticipate, on the revision of the Provincial Contracts. We believe we do not hazard much in this expectation. Sir AUCKLAND COLVIN is no theatrical financier given to startle, but a sober, safe Chancellor of the Exchequer. He spoke out his mind very fully in his last Statement. In that document he disclosed his dislike to taxation and his submission to it as an imperial necessity. He also showed how he relied upon the Famine Fund as well as on the renewal of the Provincial Contracts as reserves in hours of worse tightness.

Discontent had indeed been expressed by some



of the Local Governments, at the reduction of the shares of the revenue, the disposal of which was in their hands under the terms of the contracts which are about to expire. But the security of imperial interests must override all other considerations. Besides, the Lord of India gave and it is for the Lord to take away. The Local Governments could not at any rate be worse off now than they were in the period previous to the new contract system, and it cannot be pretended that during that period they had not fairly good scope in carrying on their administration. It must also be remembered that the reductions of revenue, to which they are now called on to reconcile themselves, are dictated by exceptional circumstances, and it is their duty loyally to co-operate with the Supreme Government, in making the policy of economy a success, the more so that it was the generosity of the Government of India that gave out of their abundance what the Provinces have so long been enjoying. The slight improvement in the value of the rupee, and the increased receipts from Railways, will probably be among the hopeful elements in the financial Statement.

We may here mention that the late opium convention with China, by which England will pay an addition to the duty on the drug as compensation for China's abolishing the harrassing inland dues to which it is subject in the interior of that Empire, comes into operation from this year. Whether China is strong enough to be able to abolish the transit duties, has been doubted, while it would be difficult to revert to the original arrangements. So that it was apprehended that England might have to incur a burden without an equivalent. So far as the late sales may be regarded as any index, there is no ground for fear. At least the satisfactory prices published in the *Indian Daily News* show that as yet the new arrangements have not produced a deterrent effect on the consumption in China. This is good news for our Government and the Indian taxpayer. It is of the utmost importance that the Opium revenue shall be maintained till the rapid expansion of our Railway Receipts is able to supply the loss.

#### NATIVE PREFERENCE FOR EUROPEAN ZOOLOOM.

In connection with the scheme of Local Self-Government, this journal has maintained a consistent policy. We have not appraised the value of that scheme beyond its worth. It is a little thing in itself, and whatever of value it possessed in our eyes consisted in its concession of un-official chairmanship. In that experiment lay its potentialities for future good. That almost exhausts its efficacy as a measure of political and business training to the people. Holding this view, our readers can conceive how naturally we have been disappointed at the timidity of those of our Municipalities and Local Boards, which having the privilege of returning non-official gentlemen as Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen have waived their privilege in favor of officials. That has been no less a disappointment to us than a surprise to their best friends amongst the European community. The triumphant reception of Lord Ripon's scheme throughout the country—the meetings of congratulation held by the people at large at the publication of the famous Resolution of 18th May 1883—the excellent writings of the native press on the subject, have, so far, been belied and stultified by the actual proof of political selfconfidence given in the moment of trial by several of our town and village

elders. Of course we do not shut our eyes to the reasons which led them in making their choice of officials. Officials as such carry a prestige to which the ablest non-official must make no claim. Officials are just the kind of deities required to allay the parochial jealousies and intrigues which otherwise would burst into a storm, and threaten the very institution itself with destruction. We are by no means insensible to these perils of native non-official administration. But does it not lie with us, by firmness, moral purity and, above all, patriotism, to prevent them. Where they happen, are they not of the people's own doing? Is there no leadership available at critical stages of a nation's growth to lull to sleep all the baser feelings of our parochial life—to sweep away all the scum and froth that float on the surface of Pedlingtonian politics? If there be no such leadership, away with all hopes of political advancement! With all its advantage, however, one should take care not to erect officialism into a fetish. We must not be blinded by the prestige of officialism to its worse features. We must not commit the suicide of hugging that to the breast which with all its good perpetuates our political pupillage. To those who are apt to make too much of that prestige, we say, Has not the absence of prestige in non-official management its compensating advantages in greater local interest and greater zeal for local improvement, not to speak of greater local knowledge?

But it is not our purpose to preach a sermon on the duty of our countrymen in these stirring times. Let it suffice to point out to them that by showing preference to European officials over their own countrymen, they put a weapon in the hands of their enemies which these will not be slow to turn against them. The following argument occurs in the evidence of Mr. Justice PRINSEP before the Public Service Commission. Its application to the present subject is obvious.

"In conclusion, he said that he believed that the people in India did not wish to have any extensive increase of Native officers, or large powers conferred on them. The pressure was rather by those who hoped to get into Government service, but the real question was how far such appointments could be conferred with proper regard to the efficiency of the public service and the stability of Government. He had always been much impressed by the want of confidence shown towards Native officials by their own countrymen. He believed that the vast majority would always prefer to have their cases before European officers, and for this purpose were constantly applying for the transfer of cases, and they would do so in greater number if not discouraged."

Admitting the facts adduced by Mr. PRINSEP, we deny the conclusion he establishes on them. In truth, these facts are susceptible of a very different interpretation—an interpretation by no means flattering to the judicial capacity of European officers. Native suitors are indeed anxious to have their trial before alien judges. But supposing this to be the case, it is because of the greater facility of throwing dust in the eyes of such judges. The truth is even so, in a great majority of cases. Native judges are not so easy to be hoodwinked. Their knowledge of vernacular languages, and of native habits and ways qualifies them in an immensely greater degree to arrive at the truth in a case. Native officers, indeed, specially when they are men without connections, sometimes make themselves odious to native suitors by their manners. Their overbearing demeanour—their besetting tendencies to convict and the disposition to pass severe sentences, may also account for native partiality for European officers. Of course even Mr. PRINSEP does not mean, we suppose, that Native Civil Judges are at an equal discount as the native magistracy.

## THE GAZETTE OF INDIA.

Fort William the 16th February, 1887.

[Concluded from page, 94.]

No. 810 I.

Her Majesty the Queen and Empress of India has been pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood on the undermentioned gentlemen :---

Alexander Wilson, Esq., Merchant, Sheriff of Calcutta.

M. R. Ry. P. S. Ramaswami Mudaliyar Avargal, C. I. E., Sheriff of Madras.

Dinsha Manekji Petit, Sheriff of Bombay.

The Hon'ble Henry Leland Harrison, B.A., Bengal Civil Service, Commissioner of Police and Chairman of the Corporation of the Town of Calcutta, and Member of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for making Laws and Regulations.

Henry Meredith Plowden, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, Senior Judge of the Punjab Chief Court.

No. 284 F.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint to the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George the following officers lately employed with the Afghan Boundary Commission :

The Ordinary Members of the Third Class, or Companions of the said Most Distinguished Order, viz :---

Major William Hope Meiklejohn, General List, Infantry.

Major Alexander Thomas Seton Abercromby Rind, Bengal Staff Corps.

Surgeon Charles William Owen, C. I. E., Bengal Medical Service, Civil Surgeon of Naini Tal.

Kazi Muhammad Aslam Khan, C. S., Assistant Commissioner in the Punjab.

No. 811 I.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General having taken into his consideration that adequate means do not exist whereby he can recognize eminent distinction in learning among the loyal Hindoo and Mahomedan subjects of her most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, and being desirous to commemorate the event of the Jubilee of her Majesty's Accession to the Throne, has resolved to institute a new title for eminent services rendered by Hindoos or Mahomedans in the promotion of Oriental learning.

2. His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General directs that in the case of Hindoos the title shall be MAHAMAHOPADHYAYA; and in the case of Mahomedans SHAMS-UL-ULAMA.

3. The title shall be prefixed to the name of the title-holder.

4. To persons upon whom the title of MAHAMAHOPADHYAYA is conferred shall be granted a *khilat* consisting of an *amama* or turban and an *uttariya* or shawl. To persons upon whom the title of SHAMS-UL-ULAMA is conferred shall be granted a *khilat* consisting of an *ammama* or turban and a *jubba* or cloak.

5. Persons upon whom the title of Shams-ul-ulama has been conferred shall in Darbar take rank next below titular Nawabs; and persons upon whom the title of Mahamahopadhyaya has been conferred shall in Darbar take rank next below titular Rajas.

No. 812---I.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer the title of Mahamahopadhyaya on the following gentlemen as a personal distinction :---

Bengal---Lower Provinces---Bhuvan Mohan Vidyaratna, Mahesh Chandra Nyayaratna, Sri Ram Siramani, Rakhal Das Nyayaratna, Prasana Chandra Nyayaratna, Dina Bandhu Nyayaratna, Chandra Kanta Tarkalankar, Tarini Charan Siramani.

Bombay---Raja Ram Sastri Bodas, Gopala Padhye Gurjar, Narayan Sasti Gokhle, Bala Sastri Agase, Rama Dikshita Apte.

Central-India---Gopala Chariya Kradkar, Harihar Sastri Dravida.

Madras---M. Raju Sastriyar, T. Shrikrishna Tatachariyar, S. Sriman Parasara Alaghasengara Bhuttr, T. Venkata Rangachariyar.

N. W. Provinces and Oudh---Bapudeva Sastri, C. I. E., Gangadhar Sastri (Benares College), Sadhakara Dube, Lachhman Acharji.

Punjab---Sirdar Atar Singh, C. I. E., Pandit Guru Prasad.

No. 813---I.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer the title of Shams-ul-ulama on the following gentlemen as a personal distinction :---

Bengal---Mufti Mir Muhammad Abbas, Maulavi Muhammad Sayid, Shaikh Mahmud Jillani.

N. W. Provinces and Oudh---Maulavi Abdul Hakk of Cawnpore, Maulavi Abdul Hakk of Kheirabad, Maulavi Abdul Razzak, Maulavi Abdul Husain, Sayyid Amir Ahmad, Maulavi Sayyid Hamid Husain, Maulavi Muhammad Naiyim, Maulavi Sayyid Ibrahim, Maulavi Taka-ullah.

Punjab---Maulavi Muhammad Husan Azad, Maulavi Zia-ud-din Khan.

Madras---Haji Maulavi Bakr-ud-din Sayyid, Muhammad Khaderi, Hafiz Muhammad Lutf-ulla, Maulavi Tarazish Khan Bahadur.

No. 814---I.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer upon Raja Siva Pershad, C. S. I., of Benares, the title of Raja as a hereditary distinction.

No. 815 I.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer upon the undermentioned gentlemen the title of Maharaja as a personal distinction :---

Raja Rughoonath Sarun Singh Deo of Sirgooja, Chota Nagpore.

Raja Pertab Narain Singh of Mehdaura, Fyzabad district, Oudh.

No. 816 I.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer upon Nawab Abdool Luteef, C. I. E., the title of Nawab Bahadur as a personal distinction.

No. 817 I.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer upon the undermentioned gentlemen the title of Raja Bahadur as a personal distinction :---

Raja Kristendra Roy of Bolihar, in the district of Rajshaye.

Raja Surjaganj Acharjee of Muktagatchi in Mymensing.

Raja Shamanund Dey of Balasore, Orissa.

No. 818 I.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer upon the undermentioned gentlemen the title of Nawab as a personal distinction :---

Syud Lutf Ali Khan, C. I. E., of Patna.

Syud Ata Hossein of Purneah.

Syud Ali Khan, Khan Bahadur, of Monghyr.

Sardar Muhammad Khan, Laghari, Dehra Ghazi Khan.

No. 819 I.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer upon the undermentioned gentlemen the title of Raja as a personal distinction :---

The Hon'ble T. Rama Row, Member of the Legislative Council of his Excellency the Governor of Madras, and Vakil of the High Court.

Babu Mohendro Lal Khan of Midnapore, Zemindar.

Babu Durga Charan Laha, C. I. E., of Calcutta.

The Hon'ble Peary Mohun Mookerjee of Ootterpara, Hooghly.

Babu Mahima Runjun Roy Chowdhari of Rungpore.

Thakur Padman Singh of Khariar, Central Provinces.

Thakur Kanhaya Lal of Khairagarh, Central Provinces.

Mohant Balram Dass of Nandgaon, Central Provinces.

No. 820 I.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer upon Srimati Rajkumari Dasi of Jorasanko, Calcutta, widow of Babu Prankissen Mullick, the title of Rani as a personal distinction.

No. 821 I.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer upon the undermentioned gentlemen the title of Dewan Bahadur as a personal distinction :---

T. Venkaswami Row, Revenue Secretariat, Madras.

J. Lakshmikanta Row Pantalu, Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, Madras.

P. Srinivasa Rao, Judge of the Court of Small Causes, Madras.

Rao Bahadur Laxaman Jagannath, Dewan of Baroda.

No. 822 I.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer upon the undermentioned gentlemen the title of Khan Bahadur as a personal distinction :---

Mahomed Ishak, Saheb Bahadur, Assistant Paymaster of Carnatic Stipends, and Acting Persian and Hindustani Translator to the Government of Madras.

Ghulam Muhammad Haider Saheb, Inspector of Police, Madras.

Haji Mahomed Abdulla Badsha Saheb, Merchant, Madras.

Syud Idrus, Retired Hospital Assistant, Bombay.

Mr. Kuverji Kavasji, late Deputy Collector, Bombay.

Khan Sahib Mahomed Khan Dehlvi, late Police Inspector of Tana, Bombay Presidency.

Dossabhai Pestonji, Acting Civil Surgeon, Surat, Honorary Assistant Surgeon to his Excellency the Viceroy.

Dhanjisha Hormasji, Deputy Assistant Political Agent in Kathiawar, Bombay Presidency.

Syed Asghar Reza, Zeminder of Kishengunge, Purneah, Bengal.

Syud Fuzl Imami, Honorary Magistrate, Sadikpore, Patna district.

Syud Moazzim Hossein of Burrisal, Backergunge district, late Judge, Court of Small Causes, Jessore.

Moulvi Scraj-ul-Islam, B. A., B. L., Zemindar, Tipperah district, and Honorary Magistrate, Calcutta.

Moulvi Farid-ud-din, Subordinate Judge, North West Provinces.

Saiyid Saifur Hussain Khan, late a Subordinate Judge, N. W. P.

Saiyid Muhammad Ali Khan, Honorary Magistrate, Meerut.

Munshi Muhammad Karim, Deputy Collector, N. W. P.

Munshi Muhammad Moshin, Deputy Collector, Oudh.

Moulvi Abdul Wahab, Assistant District Superintendent of Police, North-West Provinces.

Moulvi Zaka-ul-ah, Professor of Vernacular Literature and Science, Muir College.

Munshi Muhammad Sadik, Honorary Assistant Engineer and Deputy Magistrate, Irrigation Department, North-West Provinces.

Fakir Kumruddin, Honorary Magistrate, Lahore.

Ghulam Kadir Khan, Khagwani, Mooltan district.

Munshi Ghulam Nabi, late Extra Assistant Commissioner, Punjab.

# REIS & RAYYET

PRINCE & PEASANT).

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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## The Week.

THE telegrams of this week are unusually reassuring as to the military outlook. Both Russia and Austria are credited with pacific intentions. The Austrian Emperor in conversing with members of the Delegation expressed his confidence in the maintenance of peace.

A MOTION brought in the House of Commons by Mr. BRADLAUGH for disallowing the expenses of Sir H. DRUMMOND WOLFF's mission, was rejected. Sir JAMES FERGUSSON of course spoke in high terms of Sir DRUMMOND WOLFF and expressed his confidence as to the success of the mission. Notwithstanding, we hope Mr. BRADLAUGH will not be deterred from closely examining the expenses of Government, specially in out of the way quarters. O for a JOE HUME in our generation!

SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH has resigned the Irish Chief Secretaryship; the Right Hon. A. F. BALFOUR, President of the Currency Commission, will succeed him. The reason of Sir MICHAEL'S resignation is stated to be the attack of catarrh from which he is suffering. Speaking at a dinner given by the National Conservative Club, Lord SALISBURY said that the retirement of Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH was a disaster to the Cabinet, but he hoped that it was only temporary. In fact, it has since been announced that Sir MICHAEL continues in the cabinet without a portfolio.

In the same speech, Lord SALISBURY considered the chances of European peace had improved, notwithstanding the increased armaments of the Powers. Speaking of Ireland, the Prime Minister said that it was owing to the delay in passing the procedure rules that little had been done in regard to the measures for the settlement of that country. The jury system in Ireland, he said, had broken down, and required either to be remedied or abolished.

In the meantime rent-payers in Ireland have a bad time of it, being the victims of daring incendiary raids. Such raids have taken place in County Limerick, attended with considerable damage to property.

It has been decided at a meeting of Cabinet and ex-Cabinet ministers to raise a statue to Lord IDDESLEIGH in the precincts of the House of Commons.

THE chief draftsman at Chatham Dockyard has been dismissed for selling English naval designs to the United States Government. The avaricious traitor!

THE total of the English Army Estimates is £18,400,000. The plan for mobilising the troops is almost complete. A fairly large increase of Royal Engineers and garrison artillery forms a prominent part of the scheme. By it two strong army corps will be enabled to take the field. The estimates include the completion of the fortifications of Hong-Kong and Singapore.

THE annual consumption of champagne in England is said to be 5,000,000 bottles.

AUSTRIA, like Germany, has prohibited the export of horses.

RUSSIAN newspapers have been prohibited from publishing intelligence about the movements of troops unless officially communicated.

THE Italian ministerial crisis has passed away by Signor DEPRETIS and his colleagues resuming office.

CARDINAL RAMPOLLA has declined the offer of the office of Pontifical Secretary as Cardinal JACOBINI'S successor.

IN one of his recent speeches in the *Reichstag*, Prince BISMARCK is reported to have said:—

"France is a great military power, its army is prepared to valiantly fight with us; we can never afford to remain idle in the midst of such a crisis. Should the French prove victors, what shall be our prospect? We shall find ourselves in the presence of Frenchmen who, like those who had beaten us from 1807 to 1813, would so exhaust our country as to cripple us for a generation to come."

WITH reference to the year 1889, centenary of the great French Revolution, M. BLANC—the grand old man of France, said:—

"Our fathers had taken and destroyed the Bastille. By the eternal law of education, we have succeeded in removing the Bastilles of ignorance and superstition in which the people were shut up by past regimes; let us continue to make France a vast intellectual studio, where morality and reason should be our only masters."

THIRTY-SIX telegraph offices were opened in China during last year.

MR. CROSSTHWAITE held a levee at Rangoon on Tuesday and left for Upper Burma the next day.

THE WOONTHO TSAWBWA has made up his mind to acknowledge British supremacy. In proof of his sincerity he has surrendered some arms and paid an instalment of the annual tribute of Rs. 30,000. This relieves us of a good deal of anxiety on account of the attitude of the Shans.

THE treasury at Kaukamee on the frontier of the Amherst District has been looted by a party of Bûmans of Rs. 12,000, and one of the treasury guard slain. In a skirmish reported from the Sandoway District, some police men were killed and some wounded.

AN earthquake was felt at Umballa on the 2nd instant. Smart shocks have also been felt at Ludhiana, Palampur, Kangra, Buklohs, Mussooree and Samla, lasting about 30 seconds, and attended with alarming movements of doors and furniture and oscillations of houses. The close sultry weather, called by new scientific people, "earthquake weather" preceded the shocks.

A CASE of theft committed with the utmost sangfroid is reported from Madras:—

"On Wednesday last, a native walked down to the Beach, opposite to the Monument Esplanade, where there have been lying for some time past a large number of teakwood logs belonging to Messrs. Wilson and Co. Inspecting these, and selecting one of them he called a cartman, and ordered him to convey the log to his house, arrived at which he sent for a sawyer and directed him to cut it into planks.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

This done, he next sent for a carpenter, and gave him the wood, form which he ordered him to make one dozen chairs. At the time of the theft the watchman was absent at his meal; on his return he missed the log, made inquiries of the cartman, traced the missing property and the thief, reported the matter, and, as a result, the latter was arrested, and on Saturday charged before Mr. Mir Ansuruddin Sahib, at the Presidency Magistrate's Court, with the offence. He was sentenced to suffer four months' rigorous imprisonment."

ANOTHER daring robbery is reported from Madras:—

"H. E. Gajraj Thappa Sing, the Nepalese Commander-in-Chief, is on a tour through the peninsula. Amongst his suite are a brilliant assembly of ladies, numbering no less than sixty! During his stay at Tuticorin, Mr. Gajraj Thappa Sing rented a large house, and everything seems to have passed off quietly and well, till the morning of his departure to Rameswaram, when it was found that a box or basket, containing valuable jewels, precious stones and vessels of gold and silver, some of which were intended as offerings to the presiding deity at Rameswaram, had disappeared. It seems the box was kept in a room set apart for the ladies; which had been entered through a hole made in the roof."

In the Panjab crops are suffering from want of rain.

THE Raja of Jhind died on Monday.

STEAM Tramway was opened at Penang on the 2nd instant.

THE members of the Legislative Council of the North-Western Provinces, will take rank with those of the Bengal Council.

INSTEAD of rations in kind, a money allowance will be given to troops in Biluchistan from 1st April 1887.

SIR RIVERS THOMPSON returned to Calcutta from Bhagulpore on the morning of Friday. At Bhagulpore he opened the water works.

MR. D. FITZPATRICK has been appointed to act as Resident of Mysore.

THE Maharajah of Bettia has come down to Calcutta, probably to bid farewell to Sir RIVERS THOMPSON.

SIR THEODORE HOPE inspects the Purnea Railway on his way to the Upper Provinces.

MR. SPRING BRANSON has been appointed to act as Advocate General of Madras, vice Mr. SULLIVAN, who lately died of Bright's disease.

THE newspapers are full of complaints against the questions set for the late B.L. examination in Calcutta. What must be the matter that our University cannot hold a single examination without producing a crop of complaints?

THE lighting of Dacca with gas will cost one lac and a half of rupees to Nawab AHSAHOALLA.

MR. DINSHAW MANOCKJEE PETIT, the Sheriff of Bombay, is the proprietor of no fewer than six cotton mills out of a total number of fifty mills in that city.

THE farewell dinner to Sir RIVERS THOMPSON takes place at the Town Hall on the 17th March. There will be an evening party after dinner, at which an address will be presented to the retiring Governor.

THE Ganduk bridge is being pushed on to completion. It will be ready for formal opening by the Viceroy in the course of his visit to Durbhanga.

COLONEL C. B. BROWNE, R. E., Secretary to the Public Works Department, Burma, is to succeed Colonel TREVOR in Bengal on the latter's retirement.

THE Ahmedabad municipality has adopted a water supply scheme for supplying up to 10 gallons of water per head of population. The estimated cost is Rupees six lacs.

THE West Australia Legislature has decided to grant £2,000 towards the Imperial Institute, the sum being at the rate of a shilling per head of population in the colony which numbers 40,000 souls.

DR. J. BURGESS, C.I.E., L.L.D., Director of the Archaeological Survey of India, is appointed a Trustee of the Indian Museum, vice Major-General Sir ALEXANDER CUNNINGHAM, K. C. I. E., retired.

THE Government of India will be represented by Sir EDWARD BUCK at the Belvedere Silk Conference under the presidency of the Lieutenant-Governor.

THE *Railway Service Gazette* of Allahabad speaks highly of the improved tone which Mr. BADSHAW has already introduced into the Postal department, which now feels the grip of a firm hand in all its parts. This testimony is all the more creditable to the giver in that our contemporary had attacked the appointment.

THE Madras Central Committee's Jubilee Fund exceeds a lac and quarter. This result is better than the success of the Calcutta and Bombay Committees.

THE marriage of the minor Rajkumar of Nuddea was celebrated with great *eclat*. Some accidents attended with the death of four men at the display of fireworks, are however much to be regretted.

RUMOURS of a Ghilzai rising against the Amir of Cabul have been rife for sometime. Some of the smaller tribes are since said to have joined the Ghilzais.

SIR WILLIAM WEDDERBURN, Chief Secretary to the Bombay Government, retires from service. It is reported that the Hon. Mr. NAYLOR will succeed him, the Hon'ble Mr. MAHADEO GOBIND RANADE becoming Legal Remembrancer in Mr. NAYLOR's place. Sir WILLIAM is deservedly held in great esteem for his services to the people.

THE Bhattia Temperance Mission has now turned its attention from Guzerat to the workmen of the Bombay mills, with, it is hoped, the support of the mill owners and managers. All the expenses of the mission will be provided by Mr. LALADHUR SHAMJEE, a mill-owner.

RAWALPINDI is soon to have a supply of filtered water. The Government has approved a scheme which is to cost two lacs and a half, of which the municipality will provide Rs. 1,19,000 from current income, and the rest by a loan at 6 per cent.

MR. JOSHUA KING, late Collector of Sattara, has made an offer to the Government of Bombay of Rs. 10,000 to the Victoria Technical Institute, for the training of sons of *bona-fide* handicraftsmen, belonging to the districts in which he had served. Instances of Civilian liberality for the benefit of the people are so rare, especially in these days when our rulers are more than ever birds of passage, and have more than ever to depend upon their pay and allowances, that Mr. KING's example can not be too much appreciated.

SOME of the minor Native Chiefs have already abolished transit duties in their States in honor of the Jubilee. The same measures have since been adopted in the States of Mewar and Indore. The Holkar has also granted a free constitution to the city Municipality.

THE Maharajah of Durbhanga intends, it is said, to open a glass manufactory at Khorackpore, which abounds in sand suitable for the manufacture. It will be placed under a European scientist with especial experience in the industry.

THE Afridis have lately kidnapped a Hospital Assistant from Peshawar, by a false representation that his services were required for an English Sowar who had met with an accident in his way from Jamrud. He has now sent a letter giving a description of his capture and asking that a sum of Rs. 100 may be sent to liberate him.

THE recruitment for the new police in Upper Burma has proceeded satisfactorily during the past fortnight. The levies for the Punjab battalion are over the number, and those for Lucknow and Allahabad battalions are expected to be up to the required strength shortly. Recruits are offering readily. They of course little know what is in store for them. The climate of Mandalay and its outskirts is extremely unhealthy, and the emaciated appearance of the sick who are returning tells a cruel tale of suffering.

ONE by one our English visitors are leaving us. Lord and Lady ROSEBERY having completed their tour, have already embarked on their way home. The last mail took away the Duke and Duchess of Manchester, accompanied by Lady ALICE MONTAGU, their daughter. Mr. HENRY LEE, late member of Parliament, and the Hon. FRED. BLACKWOOD and the Hon. F. BLACKWOOD, sons of our Viceroy, were passengers by the same steamer.

SOME Kurrache pilots have lately distinguished themselves by an act of great bravery. They have rescued 12 men from death by drowning at the peril of their own lives. These men were on board a boat which foundered during a heavy storm while attempting to enter Kurrache Harbour. The act of the rescuers has been eulogised in a Government Resolution and Rs. 600 has been sanctioned for rewards as recommended by the Commissioner of Sind.

THE *Indian Daily News* hears that Sir STEUART BAYLEY, the Lieutenant-Governor elect of Bengal, has no intention of going to Darjeeling. The new Governor of Madras was similarly reported to be opposed to the exodus, but the report has since proved to have had no foundation. One must therefore receive these rumours with caution. It is high time, however, that some of the Provincial Governments set some such example in the matter.

THE Parsi community of Bombay are actively endeavouring to establish an Orphanage for their community. It is said that Sir DINSHAW MANOCKJI PETIT and Bai MOTLIBAI WADI will each give a lac of rupees, and another lac is expected from half a dozen wealthy Parsi gentlemen between them. The rest of the community will subscribe about two lacs altogether, thus making a total of 5 lacs. Bombay is happy in its Sheriff. His charity honors his wealth. He has given another lac and a quarter for additional accommodation for the Cama Hospital.

ON Wednesday at 4-30 P. M., the Countess of Dufferin paid a visit to the Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor in Lower Circular Road. The inmates, the infirm, poor and destitute of the city, had a substantial dinner in honor of the occasion. Her Excellency then visited the Victoria College for Brahma and Hindu females, maintained by the patronage of Cooch Behar, where she was received by the Secretary, Babu KRISHNA BIHARI SEN. After passing a short time in looking at the work done in this institution, her Ladyship left, accompanied by the Maharani of Cooch Behar, on a visit to the Woodlands, the residence of the Maharaja of Cooch Behar at Alipore.

MR. H. A. COCKERELL, C. S. I., Member of the Board of Revenue, left Calcutta on Monday on furlough, probably with no intention of returning. Having served as Commissioner in several Divisions, Mr. COCKERELL became Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Judicial and Political Department under Sir ASHLEY EDEN, from 1877 to 1882, after which he joined the Board of Revenue. He held the position of Lieutenant-Governor for some months in 1885, when Sir RIVERS THOMPSON made a trip to Ceylon for the benefit of his health. Mr. COCKERELL will also be remembered as for some time Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality and also of the Port Commissioners. Mr. COCKERELL was a Haileybury man, and a representative of the fast vanishing old school of the Civil Service.

THE *Statesman* hears by telegraph from its Jhorehat correspondent of an abnormal increase of prosecutions under sections 182, 193, and 211 of the Indian Penal Code, furnishing the police with frequent opportunities of abusing their power. A few cases of police oppression and corruption are cited, the names of the victims being given. The correspondent concludes with the assurance that if, like Mr. WALKER of Burnea, the Jhorehat people had the means of obtaining legal

assistance, there would have been such exposures as would have been followed by the desirable reforms.

MAJOR-GENERAL H. F. HANCOCK of the Royal Engineers, died at the United Service Club on Wednesday morning. He had been suffering from an affection of the liver, but it was not considered to be so serious as to terminate fatally so soon. It was only about a fortnight ago that he had taken over charge of the office of Secretary to the Government of India in the Public Works Department from Colonel W. F. TREVOR. He was buried at the military cemetery at Bhowanipore, in the evening, several civil and military officers being present to pay their last tribute of respect to the deceased.

THIS the official programme of the Viceroy's tour to Simla :—

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General will leave Calcutta for Simla on Wednesday, the 16th March 1887, starting from Howrah by a Special Train at 7-35 A. M.

His Excellency's programme *en route* will be as follows :—

Leave Calcutta	...	16th March 1887.
Arrive Durbhunga	...	16th " "
Leave Durbhunga about	...	28th " "
Arrive Delhi	...	31st " "
Leave Delhi on the	...	4th April "
Arrive Saharunpur evening	...	4th " "
Arrive Dehra evening	...	5th " "

A Guard of Honor of British Infantry with Band and Color will be drawn up in front of the main entrance, Government House, at 7 A. M., and a Guard of Honor of East Indian Railway Volunteers will be drawn up on the Platform of the Howrah Railway Station at the same hour.

A Viceregal Salute will be fired from the ramparts of Fort William as His Excellency will be escorted from Government House to the Howrah Railway Station by a detachment of the Body-Guard.

The Commissioner of Police for the Town of Calcutta, the Commissioner of Burdwan Division, and the Magistrate of Howrah will meet His Excellency at the Howrah Railway Station. No other Government Officials are required to attend.

At all intermediate Stations on the Railway where halts of one hour and upwards are made, His Excellency will be received by one Civil and (if Military Stations) by one Military Officer only, who will report themselves to the Military Secretary. At minor halting places Officers will not attend. Full dress will be worn on these occasions by all Officers entitled to uniform. Gentlemen not entitled to uniform will appear in morning dress.

Local authorities will place themselves in communication with the Railway Officers and learn through them the time of the arrival of the Viceregal Train.

The usual Police arrangements will be made by the local authorities along His Excellency's line of route.

His Excellency will arrive at Simla about the 18th April 1887.

A Guard of Honor of the Simla Volunteers will be drawn up in front of the Viceregal Lodge and a Guard of Honor of Native Infantry at the Chowra Maidan.

A Viceregal Salute will be fired on His Excellency the Viceroy's arrival at Simla.

## Editorial Notes.

MUCH sympathy is naturally felt by the Hindu community throughout India in the fortunes and affairs of the Pooree Raj family. Sir RIVERS THOMPSON'S rejection of the memorial, lately submitted to him by a numerous and influential body of men, for the release of the Rajah who is now undergoing sentence of transportation for life, has been received with regret. There is one statement, indeed, in the Government Resolution, which holds out some hope that after all the Rajah may not have to suffer the full term. Sir RIVERS lays some stress on the fact that ten years have not elapsed since the sentence was passed. This is a substantial crumb of comfort thrown to the friends of the Rajah by way of relieving their disappointment at the rejection of their prayer, and no doubt they will not fail to remember the hint when the proper time comes.

Government is unquestionably right. It requires little strength of purpose in an alien administration to reject the prayer of ever so influential a body of the people, or for that matter ever so unanimous an appeal from the country. But on the eve of his retirement, the Lieutenant-Governor has shown a clear and certainly a natural and amiable disposition to part with good grace and kindness, and it is this fact which invests the action with all its significance. Sir RIVERS THOMPSON has exhibited at once firmness and a true sense of the responsibilities of his office in declining compliance. We are the more free to say this as we did not sign the petition, and *Reis and Rayyet* is the only journal in the whole Native Press which did not support it. We did not, of course, thwart it. The chivalry of Hindu Ethics denounces and justly denounces the churl who puts himself actively in

way of a saving effort. But we could not honestly suggest a doubt as to the convict Raja's guilt. In that respect, the terms of the petition were ill-judged. As we anticipated, they gave the Government a handle to discredit the movement. It would have been sufficient to paint the sufferings already undergone by the culprit and to suggest their substantial adequacy to the crime of complicity, and, for the rest, to appeal to the mercy of the Crown.

We may take this opportunity of reminding the zealous partizans and enthusiastic supporters of the petition that they appeared to us to have given no thought to the practical consequences of their success. It would have restored to the Raj a chief who was a miserable sot at best and is now half-demented. The petition had no support from the Raj or the Family. The Dowager Messalina was revenged by the action of the law. The poor Rani has long been reconciled to her fate. And there is a minor on the *guddi*.

In the meantime, the action brought by the Collector of Pooree for dispossessing the Raj family from the management of the temple of Jugunnath and its endowments, has given serious offence to the whole people of Orissa. Largely attended meetings have been held to mark their disapprobation of the proceedings of the Government, and a movement has been set on foot for enlisting the sympathy of the entire Hindu population of the country with the *raj* family. The resolutions passed at these meetings lay the greatest stress on the injunctions of the *shastras* which make the presence of the Thakur Raja necessary for the performance of certain special rites and ceremonies at the temple, and there can be no doubt that his removal from the ministry of the temple will be viewed by the people in general as an interference with their religious observances.

The Government has been meditating this swoop upon the temple endowments from the very commencement of the century, when Orissa first came under the British. This is not the first time that the charge of mismanagement of the temple has been brought against the family, but that position has had to be abandoned as often as it was taken. The family has had the misfortune of a minority more than once, when the affairs of the temple have been managed by the *Rani* mother, or *Rani* dowager in the name of the minor Raja. On each of these occasions, has the Government attempted to force its way to the management, and repeatedly has it been foiled. The records of these transactions will show that the administration of the temple has never suffered during these minorities. The charge of mismanagement has never held its ground. The Government had also to abandon its pretensions from a regard for the peculiar usages and customs of the family which required that the worship should be conducted in the name of the Raja. What new reasons have now led the Government to take up a position, which it had found untenable in the past on religious as well as legal grounds, have not been disclosed. The religious endowments in Orissa are some of the most valuable in the whole country, and efforts to bring them under the control of the state have been in contemplation from a long time past. If, however, the motives of the present movement are identical with those which evidently actuate the Mahomedan Endowments' Committee in their endeavour to divert religious funds to the promotion of secular objects, the Government could not have entered on a more foolish scheme of spoliation.

Too much is being made of the evidence tendered by two of our prominent mercantile representatives before the Public Service Commission, Sir A. WILSON, and Mr. HENDERSON. The reason is of course because that evidence is adverse to the Native interests. The fact, however, that any solitary testimonies of this kind are seized upon with avidity by the Anglo-Indian press, and published with a triumphant air, shows which side the weight of opinion preponderates. We are by no means surprised at the views expressed by these representatives of British enterprise in the East. One of the arguments adduced by our Sheriff is, indeed, merely a reproduction of the heresy about the sensitiveness of English capital, with which we were made too familiar during a recent heated controversy. That in these quiet days there should be a resort to the stale and exploded pretence that the employment of native agency in the administration would have the effect of driving out European capital from the country, shows the logical despair of the enemy. Verily, the defenders of British monopoly are reduced to their last leg. But that these exponents of thoroughly anti-native sentiments should be put forward as men of

great Indian experience, is neither fair nor true. The experience of these gentlemen is confined to their own groove of business and society. They rarely come in contact with the better representatives of Indian Society. It is not crowded formal parties that afford the best opportunities for the true intercourse of races, but even these are useful by subduing repugnance and removing misunderstanding and paving the way to mutual appreciation. A beginning towards this limited intercourse has only just been made by the last sheriff, Mr. ANDREW YULE, of all our European merchant princes. Independent Europeans outside the bar have the vaguest possible notion of the condition of native society, or of the desires and capabilities of the people. They have scarcely ever seen the true Hindu or Mahomedan gentlemen, of the old or the new school. To most of them an educated native is a *lusus Naturæ*. They only know their "Baboos"—a Brummagem article.

We cannot help wondering that Mr. HENDERSON should be so emphatic in his advocacy of European management of the jute business, seeing that the business has under that costly management been only landed in an almost irredeemable failure. In fact the chronic depression of the jute manufacture ought to have by this opened the eyes of shareholders to the disastrous extravagance of the system under which it is conducted, and set them thinking if it was not time that the much despised native agency should be more largely introduced. We believe it will not be gainsaid that of all our jute manufactories, the only one which is working at a profit is a Parsi concern which is managed under an entirely new plan, the chief feature of which is its independence of European predominance.

WE must confess to astonishment at some points in the evidence of Mr. FINUCANE before the Public Service Commission, which we believe will be shared by that body itself. Among other things, Mr. FINUCANE stated that native officers are apt to be partial to the landholders at the expense of tenants and that a large introduction of the native element into the administration would be disastrous to the interests of agriculture. Nothing in conscience could be wider of the mark. And is this the turn deserved by this poor country for pampering this doubly white elephant of an alien misunderstandable unapproachable official chief of husbandry and cattle-breeding? For shame Mr. FINUCANE! Or is it on the principle that the chief of busybodies always finds work for idle hands, that we have this piece of business from one of the most prominent sinecurists in the land? It is doubtful whether the assertion would have had any chance of acceptance if it did not come from the head of the Agricultural Department. The truth is all the other way. Zemindars, as a class, complain of nothing so persistently as the tendencies of the civil as well as of the criminal courts to unduly favor the rayyets. Mr. FINUCANE's opinion has only the merit of singularity. He is notoriously a hater of the natives, and his compassion for the peasantry is a mere cloak of convenience.

THE Jubilee will not have been celebrated in vain, if it led to the growth of more kindly feelings between races and classes whose mutual relations have not hitherto been of the happiest kind. It were to be hoped that the manifestations of good feeling which the occasion called forth on the part of the Mahomedans of Delhi and Bombay towards their Hindu fellow-countrymen, may prove something more than a temporary phenomenon. The Jubilee Club which the good people of Allahabad have established for promoting social intercourse between Europeans and Natives, has begun well. The Jubilee was the most appropriate occasion for such a movement. The inaugural ceremony took place under favorable auspices. The connection of a man of the liberal sympathies and above all the specific experience of Mr. Justice STRAIGHT, who appears to have taken the leading part in establishing the Club, is a circumstance of no mean value. Sir ALFRED LYALL seems also to have felt much interest in the new institution, and expressed himself to that effect. There was a large attendance of the leading members of the European and native communities at Allahabad, and altogether the meeting was one of the pleasantest incidents that marked the commemoration of the Jubilee.

Interracial Clubs of this kind have been attempted more than once during the last quarter of a century, but somehow or other, they soon fell into decay. Their objects, however, are of the utmost importance. The gulf that separates the ruling class from the people, can alone be bridged by social intercourse, and until this is established on a perma-



ment and cordial basis, it will be vain to expect that harmony between them which is the desideratum of Indian politics and indeed of Indian life. We hope the founders of the Allahabad Jubilee Club will not be daunted by any difficulties, but stick on to their institution and set an example in this respect to the communities of the other great cities in India.

A GREAT deal depends upon the European leaders of the movement. We hope Sir ALFRED LYALL will throw himself into it in right earnest. Nothing in this overgoverned land, and specially in the backward United Provinces, can succeed without official countenance. Sir ALFRED is not only Lieutenant-Governor of Upper India, but "Governor" (in the colloquial sense of the word) of the people. The official ruler of the country, he is, *ex officio*, the head of society. He can nip the club in the bud by a heedless interjection, as he can promote it into a useful and worthy fruit by simply wishing it, provided the wish be an unmistakable desire. Mr. STRAIGHT is just the man for leading such a movement. He has a more extensive and intimate acquaintance with club life in Europe than any other man in the country. He can make or mar any Club at Allahabad by his adhesion or withdrawal. He fills in "society" in India much the same position that the late Sergeant BALLANTINE did in England—a man of infinite jest and well-filled memory, genial, loving and loved of all. A genuine "Bohemia" is, of course, impossible in India, but there is room for *Noctes Ambrosiane* and the most joyous social intercourse. There are no materials for a Savage Club, but as much vivacity and skill as gleam in the *Savage Club Papers* might be contributed between Civilian Lieutenant-Governor and the Barrister-Judge.

NO truer or plainer words have been spoken of late on the subject of education, than the remarks which fell from Mr. WEST, Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University, on the subject of secondary education. That great friend of Indian education has formed a correct estimate of the education ordinarily given in our secondary schools. It is well known to be of a most indifferent and perfunctory character, and it can scarcely help being so, seeing the kind of teachers in whose hands the work is placed. As a class, it is doubtful whether there is a more uneducated body of people in any other department. This state of things can only be remedied by the expenditure of far more money upon lower education than what is now spent upon it. But the best portion of the funds which Government can devote for education is absorbed in maintaining a huge and ever developing Inspection Establishment. Education proper is therefore starved and its quality cannot help being as it is. Its neglect must affect the character of the higher University education, as the foundation must affect the superstructure. The actual state of things is well known to every man of business. Heads of offices and other employers of educated men are too well familiar with the flimsy character of the outturn of our high pressure educational system. Nor can the responsible Department be unaware of what is too patent to the world beside. The Department knows, however, to gloss over inconvenient realities by an ingenious disposition of statistics. Mr. Justice WEST, however, has a higher responsibility of his relations to the education movement, and he could not have chosen a better time for putting in a plea for increased educational expenditure than the present when the highest authorities are combined to curtail that expenditure, under the optimistic delusions that all was right with high education and they might withdraw their attention from it in favor of other kinds of education.

MR. W. C. BONNERJEA, Barrister-at-Law, officiates as Standing Counsel for the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, during the absence of Mr. A. PHILLIPS, who is granted furlough for eight months, or until further orders.

TO-DAY'S *Englishman* publishes the following telegram about the enquiry into the Cambay Scandal:—

"BOMBAY, MAR. 11.

The resolution issued to-day regarding the Cambay scandal says that the Commissioners are of opinion that the allegations brought against Mr. Wilson by Shamrao N. Laud, the Dewan of Cambay, are true. The Governor sees no reason to dissent from the opinion expressed, and his Excellency is compelled with great regret to adopt their conclusion. The proposal made by Mr. Wilson to Shamrao can only, apart from its immorality, be regarded in one of the two lights. If Mr.

Wilson had no reason to think that the proposal would be acceptable, it involved a gross outrage to an officer of high position whose dignity he was bound to secure and protect. If, on the other hand, he had reason to believe that Shamrao would accede to his request, he was putting himself under a disgraceful obligation to the Dewan of a native State within his charge, and was thereby rendering it impossible that he should ever again exercise independent supervision over the Dewan's administration. Making every allowance for the circumstance that Mr. Wilson was on the eve of his transfer to another district, and that his relations, temporarily at all events, with the Dewan, were drawing to an end, the Governor is obliged to consider Mr. Wilson's conduct to have been in the highest degree discreditable to himself and detrimental to the public service. His Excellency thinks it necessary to defer the issue of final orders in the case until the proceedings have been considered by the Secretary of State."

MR. COX, the District Superintendent of Police in Pubna, will not have the pleasantest recollections of the Jubilee. At the release of prisoners which was to mark the happy occasion, a crowd of people had collected by invitation outside the jail to see the delivery. A certain space was ordered to be kept clear in order that a volley of blank cartridges might be fired. This space was apparently encroached upon by the crowd in their eagerness for a sight of the ceremony. When the District Superintendent came out of the Jail, he found this, and was so enraged as to lose all sense of dignity and fly in the face of the crowd, and give one of them "a push with his foot." The words under quotation are Mr. COX's own words, and yet he pleaded not guilty to the charge brought against him of assault by kicking. The case was tried by Mr. VOWELL, the District Magistrate, who found the accused guilty and fined him Rs. 20. Mr. VOWELL very justly observes that the conduct of Mr. COX "was altogether reprehensible, and the more so when it took place in the presence of such a number of the Police Force who could hardly fail to act up to the example when future opportunity occurred." It is further added that on an occasion like the Jubilee when the people had been invited to witness the release of prisoners and testify their goodwill, "it was especially incumbent on the police to have exercised temper and forbearance in dealing with the crowd." The judgment of the Magistrate, like the Government Resolution on the Rungpore case, is calculated to have moderating effects on the little men and great dressed in more or less brief authority who are given to playing fantastic tricks before High Heaven.

SIR RIVERS THOMPSON has on a consideration of the facts of what is known as the "Rungpore deer case," passed a severe rebuke upon the conduct of the district Magistrate Mr. NEWBERRY and the District and the Assistant Superintendent of Police, and further marked his displeasure of their proceedings by degrading Mr. NEWBERRY, and stopping the promotion of the police officers. With rare exceptions amongst Anglo-Indians of pronounced national partialities, the decision of the Government will meet with general approval. Reserving a detailed notice of the Government Resolution for another occasion, we must congratulate Sir RIVERS THOMPSON on the impartiality and force of character shown by him in this case. The district authorities had made an infamous league as it were, to bring disgrace on a respectable family of zemindars, for no cause whatsoever except the personal displeasure of the Assistant District Superintendent. This functionary happens to be a young man, who had apparently taken to heart the refusal of his request to the head of the family for the loan of an elephant. He was evidently looking out for his opportunity of taking revenge. Instead of checking his youthful caprices, the older and superior officers allowed him a free hand, and ultimately made his quarrel their own. It was a combination of the entire district authorities for harrasing an innocent, though obnoxious family.

It is only lucky the family was in a position to protect itself by availing of the best legal assistance. As it is, not only has justice been obtained for the persecuted victims of official animosity, but an example has been made of official highhandedness which will have the most wholesome effects upon the administration.

THE Chief Justice and Mr. Justice BAYLEY having on appeal reversed Mr. Justice PINHEY's decision in the matrimonial case of RUKHIMBAI and her husband DADAJI BHIKAJEE and ordered a trial on the merits, the cause accordingly came up before Mr. Justice FARRAN. He has decided against the defendant and directed the wife to live with her husband. Her counsel having declared her determination to resist the decree of the Court under any penalty, the Court has given her one month's time, after which if she was still found unable to reconcile herself to her husband, he might apply for execution. There is, of course,

much display, in the Anglo-Indian press, of sympathy and civilized sentiment over this enforced restitution of conjugal rights. For ourselves, we sympathise with both sides. It is an unfortunate case, in which husband and wife are equally objects of pity. No less are the Judges deserving of sympathy for the anxieties which they have passed through in arriving at a conclusion, and in the misunderstanding to which they are exposed, for their share in the case. Mr. Justice PINHEY'S was a natural *bona fide* attempt by an English Judge to soften by judicial interpretation the rigors of a harsh old-world institution. The Chief Justice and Mr. Justice BAYLEY allowed the opportunity and Mr. Justice FARRAN used it for maintaining to the Hindus the integrity of their social and domestic system. But we fail to see how under the law as it is, any other decision was to be expected from a Court of Justice. Indeed, Mr. PINHEY'S decision was professedly based on his personal notions of chivalry and the fitness of things rather than on the law of the land, and its reversal on appeal need therefore create no surprise. Admitting, however, for argument's sake, that RUKMIBAI is all that she is represented to be, and her husband a very "clod," it were, at the worst, one of those ill-assorted matches which like disorders in the best regulated households are among the inevitable evils of human life. Beyond a general human interest, it scarcely concerns the public to feel in matters relating to private individuals. Are we prepared to bring every case of unhappy marriage under the review of courts of law?

After all, RUKMIBAI may not be quite a paragon of learning. Doubts have been cast on the literary pretensions set up for her,—the letters published in her name in the newspapers she can no more understand than the Revenue Minister of Hyderabad can parse the communications in the *London Times* and the Bombay papers signed MEHDI ALI KHAN—and her European friends may really be responsible for all the delusions of which she has been the victim. It is to be hoped she would yet be wise to go back to her husband and mind no higher duties than those of the domestic circle. There is yet a chance of happiness before her, if the partizans of the two sides will let her.

THE following occurs among the Mofussil Notes in the *Indian Planters Gazette*—

The epitaph in the Peshawur Cemetery—"Sacred to the memory of Rev.—aged—murdered by his chowkeedar. 'Well done thou good and faithful servant,'" is not only *ben trovato*, but literally *vero*.

In what sense? The remark, at best, is left in a state of dubiousity. For we would not say it is left ambiguous on purpose. Indeed, the epitaph is itself obscure, and so the criticism could scarcely be more explicit, unless the critic was prepared for a more liberal expenditure of words. To confess the truth, we do not at all see the application of the scraps of Proverbial Italian in the connection. It passes us how a thing *ben trovato* can be "literally *vero*." At all events, how are the epithets predicable of the epitaph in question? Is it insinuated that the inscription is a joke to show the writer's wit and to humour the Anglo-Indian public with a handle to attack the poor natives? Then, the assertion of literal verity must be abandoned as a pretence.

Confining oneself to the epitaph itself, independent of the criticism on it, the point of the text tacked to it is not quite clear. Who is the "good and faithful servant?" In the ordinary course of things, there would be no doubt—the quotation would refer to the dead clerk. One is reminded of a similar use made of the text at the opening of LONGFELLOW'S Poems on Slavery in which the Poet addressed Dr. CHANNING, the great American Unitarian theologian and moralist, thus—

The pages of thy book I read,

And as I closed each one,

My heart, responding, ever said,

"Servant of God! well done!"

Well done! Thy words are great and bold,

&c. &c. &c.

That tribute to one whom the Poet justly calls a great and good man, is thoroughly deserved, every word of it, by the writer who was the first of this century adequately at once to destroy the base cult whose object of adoration was NAPOLEON and to demonstrate in Miltonic prose in modern English the majesty of MILTON, as well as the theologian who petitioned for the rights of KNEELAND the Atheist. It jars upon one's ear and faculties to find the same scriptural congratulation addressed to the Puritan publicist who sang "Of man's first disobedience," &c., and the unknown *Padre*. In the present connection, it means that the preach-

er of the gospel has fallen a victim in the discharge of his mission. That possibly involves a good proportion of assumption. There is no knowing whether the murder had anything to do with the deceased's ministry. Probably not. It is not said that he was destroyed by a dare-devil fanatic—a *Gazi*. But perhaps we ought not to look too closely at an epitaph. As a matter of notoriety, this species of composition will not bear examination. Judging from the inscriptions in cemeteries, the English would not be recognised as the children of the dead. The fact seems to be that if they are not like the wretched Oriental, so passionately fond of what is not, but a race distinguished for a hard matter-of-fact intelligence and a sturdy love of truth, they leave these qualities outside the gates of their burial-grounds before they enter them to deposit the remains of their relatives and to commemorate the latter's virtues on stone there.

It is quite possible that the inscription is a *jeu d'esprit* composed for the poor Indian's annoyance. The word *trovato* strengthens the suggestion. Then, all we say is that it is a poor and mischievous piece of business. And, indeed, it is this suspicion that has led us to dwell on it. In that case, of course the text in question is applicable to the chowkeedar. The chowkeedar is the unfaithful lictor who is ironically addressed as "good and faithful servant," and patted on the back for his great sin of taking away the life of his master. The implication being that such blood thirsty wretches are these Eastern "Niggers" that their own masters are not safe from them, and such is the danger to Europeans in this country, such is the sacrifice involved in their coming out and residing here for even so short a period for the good of these nasty ingrates.

We submit that this is unjust and totally unfounded. And we are naturally tempted to say that we do not know that the deceased did not, in part at least, invite his own fate. Is it likely that the servant had no provocation at all? We confess in such cases we are rather inclined to sympathy with the offender. There is always an element of justice lurking somewhere in such outrages, which is apt to be missed in the evidence at the trial. The English philosopher himself has said that Revenge is a kind of wild justice. Certainly, we cannot ordinarily think highly of a master, to say nothing of a man of religion, who falls such a victim to the rage of a servant.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1887.

### TITLES OR HONOURS?

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Indian Daily News* signing himself *Howrahite* is wroth at the alleged omission to honor two of the more prominent amongst his fellow-citizens, at the distribution of honors on the Jubilee day. His vexation is aggravated by his contemplation of the better luck of his neighbours. That the, according to his notion, comparatively less important town of Bali should have been honored, on two successive occasions, in its Chairman and Vice-Chairman, is the bitterest drop in his cup. It is not our object to discuss the comparative claims of the two pairs, the one honored, and the other unhonored. It would perhaps have been better if the correspondent of the *Daily News* had refrained from personal comparisons. Bali is not a place of such mushroom growth as he imagines. It has a prouder antiquity than he seems to be aware of. Nor have its leading men given small proof of late of their public spirit and business capacity. After all, however, *Howrahite's* disappointment, and the disappointment of the two gentlemen whose public services and charities have, so far, gone unhonored, may be only temporary. Their turn may, for anything we know to the contrary, come at the next opportunity. For both Babus KEDAR NATH BNUTTACHARJEE and CHUNDER KUMAR BANERJEE enjoy the good graces of the District Magistrate. It is in truth no secret that they were both recommended on the late occasion. If, nevertheless, their names did not come out in the *Gazette*, it may be due to the Magistrate's recommendation having reached too late for this occasion. The probability is that they will not be kept waiting long. It is, therefore, the more becoming that

they and their friends should maintain a dignified deportment during the interval. When they are honored at last, which they are sure to be soon enough, they will have squared their accounts with their luckier companions in the race. Arrived at the goal, they will be perfectly equal. The order of precedence in a class of mediocrities like that of Rai Bahadoors is not of much consequence. They are equals all, so far as the title is concerned. Any petulance, or envy shown now on the part of those who are accidentally outstripped by others, or any scorn, contempt or insolence on the part of the latter cannot but prove disagreeable recollections afterwards.

Glad as we are at honor being done where honor is due, we are on principle against the undue multiplication of it. Titles have already been made cheap and contemptible enough. The public sentiment is against their degradation. What, after all, is the especial honor of being the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of a Municipality or Local Board, or for that matter, a rich man giving something of his riches for the maintenance of institutions for public benefit? There are Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen by hundreds, and donors of money for the maintenance of schools and dispensaries by thousands in the country. These latter are a most useful class, by no means of inferior claims on Government to the former. Is Government prepared to bestow titles on the whole lot? They but do their duty and therein, we should fancy, all the real honor lies.

If Government is not so prepared, is it right that at the discretion and mercy of patronizing officials of the BEAMES type, a few should be specially honored, while the majority, by no means inferior or, possibly, a good many superior to them, should be placed for no adequate cause under a slur, as it were—degraded from a position of equality to one of inferiority in the eyes of Government, at any rate? These titles are practically in the gift of the district officers whose disposition to honor may vary in its degrees of liberality. There are Magistrates and Magistrates. There may be some too prone to show their favor of favorites in this way, while there may be others who, like old fashioned people like ourself, hold that all the honor of public-spirited conduct in ordinary humanity lies in that conduct itself. The standard of honor must vary in the districts not merely according to the tendencies of the local officers, but also according as the vanity of honor-hunting is more or less developed in individuals. Vanity is, however, being stimulated too fast. We think this multiplication of titles has already demoralized the nation too much. The craze for titles was never known amongst us until now. It has grown to be a disease. It is a British creation, and like some other crazes which the British have given us, its tendencies are positively destructive of the true moral nerve and fibre of the nation.

What, after all, again, is the value of this honor that is so much coveted? Is it in its power to ennoble the ignoble, to make inferior men pass for more than they are worth? Honors have, in our knowledge, been bestowed most capriciously—on men without character, sense of honor, or truth—on liars, cheats and pettifoggers. These, however, scarcely command more respect from their neighbors, by merely doffing the well known "Babu," and writing some letters after their names. They continue to pass for what they are worth. Nay,

worse, the new trade-mark ill-comports with the old brand of infamy stamped on their face. Their baseness, their worthlessness is made more prominent and odious by the unmerited respectability into which they are elevated. As no adventitious aid to respectability is required for the man who has stuff in him—the man of diligence and truth and honesty, who lives according to his means and his resources for the good of his fellows—no showers of titles will whitewash the really mean and vile.

As incentives to noble deeds—as rewards of noble lives, titles have, no doubt, their use. But there should be the utmost husbandry and discretion in their bestowal. In the case of officials, some of the titles may well be attached to a class of offices and the incumbents for the time being may continue to glory in them. In the case of other officials, merit had better be rewarded by promotion to higher posts, by increase of pay, by special pensions. The title of Rai Bahadur given to our esteemed fellow-citizen, Babu RAJENDRA NATH MITTER scarcely brings any honor to him, and we are sure both he and the Subordinate Executive Service would have been better pleased if he were promoted to the Bengal Secretariat or to other equally higher rank in the Service to which he is well entitled. The same title was sometime ago conferred on Babu RAM SUNKER SEN, but if he was deemed worthy of a special honor, that honor would best have been done to him by granting him an extension of service or a step in the statutory service, or a special pension. As to non-officials, do those who are honored with titles of various degrees always feel sure of commanding more respectful treatment at the hands of their former equals? Are they even sacred from the rudeness or the contemptuous bullying of the Subordinate Magistracy? Do the titles before or after their names save them from daily insults at the hands of even the police? Is their being Rajas or Rai Bahadoors sufficient passport to proper reception at any courts of justice? Let their experiences of work-a-day life answer. If honors are given, let them be real honors, and not merely a shadow. As to the status of mere titled mediocrities in their own society, it is scarcely anything higher than they had before their elevation.

#### THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

WHEN the Public Service Commission was on the eve of closing its sittings in Calcutta, some rumours about its further work were set afloat by the press. One was that its examination of witnesses being finished in a few days more, it would proceed to the settlement of the report. The other report credited it with the intention of visiting Madras and other chief cities again, and going over the work which had been left to Sections of the Commission, *de novo* by the whole body. We did not know which of the conflicting reports to trust, if at all. The origin of these rumours is now cleared up by the publication of the recent Government Resolution appointing a Sub-Committee of the Commission, for enquiry into some minor branches of the Public Service. It was plain to us, however, even in our ignorance of the correct details of the case, that whether the Commission's labors came to an end, soon or late, they could not bear fruit so quickly as some people are so prone to fancy. As regards the present Commission, the question before the Government is a most ticklish one. It is preeminently of a nature that a Government would avoid and put off as long as it

could. That Lord DUFFERIN has faced it, argues no little for the bravery and candour of his Government. A Commission is, no doubt, often a mere consummate device for not doing a thing, or putting off its consummation with the make-believe of doing it. For ourselves, we have faith in the Viceroy. But our countrymen must not be in too great a hurry. They are even now impatient of the results of the Commission. They are already speculating about the conclusions likely to be formulated by the Commission. How little experience avails men! With their knowledge of the past, they ought to know that Commissions are often a tedious affair, between the inception and fruition of which years have sometimes rolled slowly away. A Commission's pace is slow, and when at last it reaches one goal, there are so many other stages which have to be passed before its race is ended. It usually takes a long time before its recommendations are carried into execution, if at all. A Commission serves other convenient purposes in the administrative economy. It is a means of rewarding good and meritorious or favored officers with a temporary change from their usual monotonous labor, as well as of temporarily relieving the block as regards promotion in the Service. A membership is a kind of privilege leave with the additional privilege of a traveling allowance. Sometimes the work has *diletante* attractions. At others, a Commission is appointed by one Administration only to be knocked down by the succeeding Administration. Indeed, there are many chances and changes to overcome. Where, after all, a Commission's work is unfruitful, it is a pure waste of public money. There have been Commissions of several kinds during the last ten years, but what adequate gain has resulted from their labors, one is at a loss to find. They have added some big blue books which few care or have the patience to go through. So far as any good has resulted, it might just as well have been achieved without all tedious circumlocution. Why all the much ado about nothing?

But there is many a slip between the cup and the lip. Our countrymen need be in no hope or fear that it is the ultimate arbiter of their destinies. There is no hurry about it. After its report is ready, there may be another long period occupied in its circulation to the several Local Governments for their opinion. The Government of India with the members of the Executive Council will possibly then have their turn, before the thing at last fairly leaves the shores of India, for passing through another series of deliberations by the members of the Council of the Secretary of State and the Cabinet. If it survives these repeated operations, it will then be time for the drafting of a Bill for enactment by Parliament. What an admirable device this for seeming to do, while, you actually do not. Who knows, at its latest stage or any of the intermediate ones, it may not be shelved outright?

While such is probably the dreary prospect before us, any speculation as to the tendency of the conclusions that the Public Service Commission is likely to arrive at upon the evidence, is premature. Such speculation is nevertheless rife. There are significant whispers and head-shakes. It is for instance surmised, with the air of solemn gravity as becoming a most confidential communication, that the Commission had made up its mind against an examination in India for the Covenanted Civil Service. Now, we must confess, we do not believe these rumours, though they come from quarters usually the best informed in official secrets. The Commis-

sion is too fairly representative in its constitution not to inspire the utmost confidence in its honesty. In himself the President of the body is sufficient guarantee of the singlemindedness of its objects. There are other liberal minded European members like Sir CHARLES TURNER, whose purity is above suspicion. The representatives of Indian interests are also not feeble. The behaviour of some of the members, particularly when they were left to work in separate committees, is, indeed, calculated to lend color to such suspicions. Charges of bias and hostility against native interest may lie against some members. But it is only against individuals that such a charge may lie. That the Commission as a body harbours any inclination to enforce a foregone conclusion, appears to be wholly improbable.

But supposing there were any prejudice against having an examination in India, the evidence already taken would be conclusive on the point. In fact, with the exception of some decisively anti-native witnesses, a consensus of testimony has been offered in support of this point. The justice of having a simultaneous examination in India, has been established. On no other point, save in respect of the age of the candidates and the assignment of adequate marks to the Oriental languages in the Examination, has there been such a strong unanimity of opinion. The unanimity in all these respects has the same common end in view—the removal of the obstacles to the greater admission of natives to administrative posts in their country. No obstacle, however, acts more powerfully in bar of their admission as the locality of the Civil Service examination. If therefore the object of the Commission is to afford facilities to native candidates to enter the service of their country, that object can only best be attained by having an examination in India. The effect of the other changes will be only of minor importance. The contingency which has been dreaded that the Civil Service will be swamped by the native element by these means, may be obviated by fixing an arbitrary proportion of the appointments which are annually to be open to natives. But we have no faith nor does the experience of the past warrant our having any faith, in the action of some minute reforms in the Civil Service Examination.

#### ALLAHABAD

The 3rd March, 1887.

At 2 O'clock P. M., yesterday the five Judges of the High Court assembled on the 1st Bench. The occasion was to take leave of Mr. Justice Oldfield, who having completed the full term of his office was about to retire. The room was crowded with the Barristers and vakils of the court, and there were also many other visitors. As soon as the Judges took their seats, Mr. Dillon, who was the senior Barrister present in court, rose and addressed Mr. Oldfield on behalf of himself and his brother Barristers, expressing their deep regret at his departure from the country and retirement from the High Court Bench. Mr. Dillon referred to the services of Mr. Oldfield and said that as a judge he not only commanded respect but gained the affection of all who had appeared before him. Mr. Dillon said among other things that he was not aware that, during the tenure of his office for thirteen years, Mr. Oldfield had ever used a single harsh word to any one. After Mr. Dillon bade farewell to Mr. Oldfield, the Hon'ble 'Pandit Ajudhia Nath, the President of the Vakils' association, stood up and addressing a few words by way of introduction, read the address which was prepared by the vakils of the court for presentation to Mr. Oldfield. It is printed in illumined letters on a parchment. It was put in a *kinkhab* bag and placed on a silver plate of beautiful Cashmere workmanship. But these were nothing in comparison with the feelings expressed in the address itself. Every word and every expression of the address evinced a sincere feeling of admiration and respect. If it can be said of any man, it can be said without a fear of contradiction, that Mr. Oldfield was justice itself. The prefix "justice" was truly applicable

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT).

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AND

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## The Week.

THE *Pioneer* reports the following as about the best of the many stories illustrating popular misconceptions of the meaning and purpose of the Jubilee. To a little knot of country-folk who had come in to see the doings at Fyzabad, "What," said an old Mahomedan lady, with the superior knowledge of a town life, "don't you know that it is because Allah has been pleased to grant the Rani a son in her old age?" We are able to match that. Pestered with inquiries and tired of cross-examination, failing to drive the prepossessions of his simple friends out of the field and drive the truth home, and unable in especial to dispel their amused wonder at a sensible old widow being so overjoyed at being preserved so long as to open herself out for congratulations from all sides and to get up a universal demonstration of fairs and other sights and shows by her numerous agents at their local centres, a Bengali gentleman at length made short work of it all and kept ever after telling people that it was the Queen's mother's obsequial festival. And no doubt the great gathering on the plain before Fort William, with the delegates from all parts of the country and the Pandits in their proper white robes and their learned pates properly covered by *Ooshneches*, from all the various Samajs and seats of learning, seemed to realise more the idea of a Hindu *shraddh* than anything else. The arrival of the globe-trotters and other eminent visitors gave it colour.

A FULL size marble statue of the Queen will be erected by the inhabitants of Malta in honor of the Jubilee.

THE German Emperor's 90th birthday will be celebrated with grandeur. No less than eighty-five Royal personages will attend the ceremony, and the Crown Prince will be proclaimed co-regent on the occasion.

THE *Standard* of the 14th published a telegram stating that an unsuccessful attempt had been made to murder the Czar. This telegram was immediately contradicted from St. Petersburg. This contradiction appears to have had no foundation. The next day, the 15th instant, in reply to a question, in the House of Commons, Sir JAMES FERGUSON said that the British Government had been informed that six students had been arrested for being found on the road, which the Czar was expected to pass on his way to attend the *requiem* mass in honor of his father, with explosives in their possession. It is subsequently reported that upwards of two hundred students have been arrested at St. Petersburg. The bombs found in their possession were made to resemble books, and contained dynamite and poisoned bullets.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL'S opposition to increased expenditure has not been without fruit. The Navy Estimates for 1887-88 presented the other day to the House of Commons by Lord GEORGE HAMILTON, First Lord of the Admiralty, are below the Estimates of the previous year, by £70,000. This is the result of various reductions and reforms in the several departments of the Admiralty. These changes seem to have been very wisely made as, while they have produced no small decrease of expenditure, an addition of eleven hundred officers and men has also been given to the Navy. The building of ships is also being carried on with activity.

THE British subsidy to the Egyptian army formed the subject of a debate in the House of Commons. The Radicals attacked it, but the Chancellor of the Exchequer explained that it could not be discontinued all on a sudden. Her Majesty's Government had no intention to continue subsidizing the Egyptian army, and the Egyptian authorities for their part were trying, by reduction of expenditure, to produce an equilibrium between income and expenditure. If, however, these efforts were unsuccessful, they must make deductions from the coupons, which would involve an International Commission in Egypt with its inevitable disastrous effects on the progress of that country. The vote was at last granted.

M. DE LESSEPS told a reporter, by whom he was "interviewed" at Berlin after his interview with Prince BISMARCK, that the danger of a war between France and Germany had passed away. He added that serious complications would arise unless England fixed a date for the evacuation of Egypt. M. DE LESSEPS also advised the reinstatement of ISMAIL Pacha as Khedive. England, however, would entertain no proposals for the recall of ISMAIL Pacha to Egypt.

MR. GOSCHEN has corrected two inaccuracies that had occurred in his biographical sketch lately published by a Glasgow paper. The corrections are that he was not born in Leipzig, but in London, his father having settled in England many years previously, nor did he belong to a Jewish family. He was of German origin, and his family had always been Protestant.

THE Governor of Madras met with an accident which fortunately was attended with no injury. On the morning of the 10th instant, while out riding, his horse put its foot in a hole, and came down with its master. The Governor, however, was unhurt, and remounted immediately.

A SEVERE shock of earthquake was felt at Mandalay on the 16th instant.

THE reports from Burma are far from satisfactory. Raids by Burmese upon British outposts continue, and in some recent ones, the police stations were burnt, the telegraph wires cut, and some of the police men killed. A subsequent telegram, under date 14th March, reports nine sepoy and a Subadar having fallen into ambush, of whom two were killed, and the rest wounded. At an action before the Din gadaw post, which was attacked in great force, the Burmese have been defeated with heavy loss. At Ningyan, there were two fires attended with the destruction of forty houses. Numerous petty actions are also reported, showing that the pacification of the country is far from being established. News from the Shan States is satisfactory.

THE surrender of WUNTHO TSAWBWA does not after all seem to be so complete as previous reports represented. He has made over some firearms, and paid Rs. 10,000, but he is unwilling to come in himself, though he declines fighting.

THE Viceroy left the capital, according to the programme, on the morning of the 16th instant and arrived at Durbhanga the same evening. The station was brilliantly decorated and the street illuminated.



and spanned by triumphal arches. His Excellency was received by the Maharaja and all the local officials.

THE Countess of Dufferin, accompanied by Mrs. ROWAN HAMILTON, Major COOPER, and Captain GORE, left Calcutta on Wednesday for Darjeeling. Her Excellency returns on Monday.

THE Budget will be published on the 26th instant. Sir AUCKLAND COLVIN leaves Calcutta on the 27th.

SIR THEODORE HOPE's extension of service to December is received with general satisfaction.

SIR WILLIAM HUNTER goes home on furlough for eight months by the mail which leaves Bombay on 1st April.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Justice STRAIGHT will take leave to England during the hot weather.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY will arrive in Calcutta on the 21st instant and take over charge from Mr. PELLE the same day.

THE Nizam of Hyderabad has established six scholarships of Rs. 20 a month each, in connection with the female medical school at his capital.

THE Nizam of Hyderabad will be represented at the Jubilee celebration in London by the Nawab MUNIR-UL-MULK, and not the Nawab MUSHEER-UD-DOWLAH, who goes to England in a private capacity.

THE Civil Service will entertain Sir RIVERS THOMPSON at a farewell dinner on the 26th instant.

MR. GRIMLEY is spoken of as likely to officiate as Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality during the absence of Sir HENRY HARRISON on furlough. Government might just as well send their Bear with a birch to the corporation, to bully the Commissioners and worry all the independent officers out of their lives and make ducks and drakes with the revenue! In the meantime, Mr. GRIMLEY has been Gazetted to officiate as Magistrate and Collector of Midnapore.

CAPTAIN HAYES is having great success in horse-breaking, and in teaching how it may be done. While at Dibrughat, several refractory horses, including jibbers, biters, runaways and those difficult to mount, were quickly reduced to obedience. Captain HAYES is holding crowded classes for instruction in horse-breaking. The Chief Commissioner and other gentlemen attended, and showed by their aptness in learning that the methods taught by Captain HAYES are easy of acquirement. The Captain is in high request, and invitations are pouring in from various stations in Assam.

BABU NAGENDRANATH BANERJEE, of the Agricultural College at Chitcester, has been awarded the highest diploma, with special first class certificate and silver medal, at the final examination.

WHEN a detachment of 13 men of the 3rd Bombay Light Infantry reached Poona from Tullegaum, all were found seriously ill, one died, and others are not expected to live. For the purposes of *post mortem* examination, the contents of the stomach have been forwarded to the Government Analyst at Bombay. Poison is believed to be the cause of death.

CRIME is on the increase, and the release of so many prisoners will help to aggravate the tendency. A Bengali from Lucknow reports a daring attempt on his house in the city early in the evening. He also says that another gentleman's house at Nawabgunje near Lucknow was looted.

A daring robbery is reported to have taken place in the interior of the Sholapore District. A Guzerati was travelling with his family when, at some apparently sequestered place between two villages, he was attacked by a gang of 16 robbers and looted of ornaments to the value of Rs. 4,000.

From Dibrughar comes news of nightly robberies.

A correspondent writing from Baranagar, in the Suburbs of Calcutta, complains of the unusually large number of thefts and burglaries which have recently occurred in that town. The police, as usual, is helpless, if not worse. The police in Baranagar requires looking after. The complaints are chiefly levelled against the Sub-Inspector but beyond a temporary change from one man to another, we do not see how the evil is to be remedied without a change of system. The low pay of the service is absurd in view of its great responsibilities, and it is therefore scarcely any wonder that corruption should be the rule rather than the exception in the Department.

THE construction of the Nilgiri Railway has been sanctioned, and the work will commence in a few weeks.

THE Hon'ble Moulvi ABDUL JUBBER has been appointed a member of the Public Service Sub-Commission for the time it will make its enquiries in Bengal.

THE *Great Eastern* has again changed hands. It was sold at Liverpool for £26,000.

THE Darjeeling mail which left Calcutta on Saturday the 12th instant, narrowly escaped destruction by a serious obstruction which evidently some miscreants had caused to be erected by heaping up a quantity of stone ballast in the middle of the lines. Fortunately, the driver perceived the danger in time to pull up the engine a short distance off the obstruction. The matter is under enquiry.

MAHARANI SARAT SUNDARI of Mutia died at Benares, where she had been residing for some time. She was widely known for her charity and received the title of Maharani at the Delhi Assemblage in 1877.

THERE has been a serious outbreak of cholera at Benares, particularly in the native quarter. It is said that there were 1800 deaths during one fortnight, or at the average of 120 deaths a day. Preventive measures are, however, being actively taken.

THE office of Inspector of Factories has been abolished in Bombay; the duties will be performed as in Bengal by some Joint Magistrate.

A MUNICIPAL Commissioner of Monghyr, one GOPAL PERSAD SAHOO, has been fined Rs. 50 by the Magistrate, who is also the Chairman of the municipality, for neglecting to keep his drain clean. The High Court was moved to set aside the Magistrate's order, but it has declined to interfere.

THE Uttarpara municipality was sued in the person of its Chairman, Babu BEJOY KISSEN MOOKERJEE, by a grandson of Baboo JOY KISSEN MOOKERJEE for a refund of a sum of house tax, alleged to have been overassessed upon the plaintiff, from vindictive feelings on the part of the Chairman, who is at loggerheads with his grandfather. The Judge of the Small Cause Court has dismissed the suit.

THE recently honored Rani RAJCOOMARI DASI, widow of the late Babu PRANRISTO MULLICK of this city, has expressed her intention of endowing 5 per cent. municipal debentures of the value of Rs. 2,000, for founding two scholarships of Rs. 50 each in connection with the Bengal Branch of the Lady Dufferin's Fund.

THERE was at Darjeeling a severe shock of earthquake on the night of Sunday, the 13th instant, about ten minutes past one, followed by a second shock soon after.

THE Comilla correspondent of the *Statesman* says that Government has at last sanctioned Rs. 30,000 for the construction of the Brahmanberia Sub-divisional court buildings.

THE widow of CHARLES CARRINGTON HAVELOCK, a nephew of the late Sir HENRY HAVELOCK has applied to sue *in forma pauperis* TIMOTHY RHENIUS, an inspecting postmaster, for the recovery of Rs. 15,000 damages for breach of promise of marriage. The defendant has been called on to show cause why the suit should not be entertained.



LORD and Lady REAY are interesting themselves greatly in the St. John's Ambulance Association, lately established at Bombay under the auspices of Lord and Lady BRASSEY.

THE Bombay Presidency Association have entered a protest against the present Government policy regarding high education.

THE Maharajah Holkar has ordered that the allowances hitherto enjoyed by his brother YASVANT RAO Holkar should be continued to him, and that should he wish to live separately, a money-grant of Rs. 50,000 a year should be paid to him in addition to a Jaghir yielding Rs. 50,000, to be enjoyed by him and his descendants.

SIR DINSHAW PETIT, the Sheriff of Bombay, is a highly popular man. Congratulatory addresses are being voted to him by various Associations and sections of the community at the honor of Knighthood conferred on him by Government.

AT a recent meeting of the Senate of the Calcutta University, the Vice-Chancellor announced that the University of Oxford had consented, under certain conditions, to arrangements for enabling students from the affiliated colleges of the Calcutta University to take their B.A. degree at Oxford in two years. Negotiations having similar objects are in progress with the Cambridge University.

THE GARTH Memorial Committee have decided to have a full length portrait of Sir RICHARD GARTH painted by some eminent artist in England, and to devote the balance that may remain after payment of the expenses for the portrait, to some object in connection with Lady Dufferin's Fund.

AT the dinner given by the Viceroy at Government House in honor of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON, the Viceroy, in proposing the health of Sir RIVERS, eulogised the retiring Lieutenant-Governor with a profuseness which must be highly gratifying to the Anglo-Indian community. The effects of the Viceroy's compliments on natives are, however, very different.

THE money-lender H. MACKINTOSH, lent Rs. 250 in December 1883 to one OWEN ARATOON, who received however only Rs. 200, Rs. 50 being deducted by Mr. MACKINTOSH by way of discount. The debt was according to the terms of the promissory note payable on 5th March 1885. The debt not having been paid, Mr. MACKINTOSH has sued and obtained a decree for Rs. 1,150 from the Calcutta Small Cause Court, Rs. 250 being the reported principal, and Rs. 900 being interest thereon. This looks to be a bad case of usury indeed!

IT is the fashion now-a-days for Europeans to be thrust on native princes and noblemen. As might be expected, under the circumstances, they are not remarkable for loyalty to their masters. Somehow they do not usually get on—that is clear. Not unoften they pass away under a cloud, leaving accounts unrendered, or the criminal law unsatisfied.

The latest case of the kind has occurred in the Nahun hills. In the usual way the Raja had taken in his service one Mr. BEAUMONT. The service has determined and now Mr. BEAUMONT is under a serious charge of embezzling the Raja's money. The case has been fixed for the 18th April, to be tried by a jury before the Sessions Court of Dehra.

THE *Englishman* publishes the following telegram from Bombay under date the 15th March :—

"A Zanzibar telegram to the *Bombay Gazette* says that the dispute between Portugal and Zanzibar has culminated in the bombardment of the town of Niginamgao, near Tungi, by Portuguese men-of-war. The bombardment was continued until the whole town had been destroyed. The place is now a desolate mass of ruins; no building of any kind having escaped the general destruction. Niginamgao, which is an important trade centre with a population of about 5,000, including a considerable number of negroes, is a purely Indian settlement, being inhabited almost entirely by natives of India, who control the trade and hold the greater part of the property in the place. The loss caused by the bombardment has fallen most heavily on British Indian subjects, and the value of British property destroyed exceeds a hundred thousand dollars. Some fifty British subjects have suffered by the bombardment, and the inhabitants generally are in great distress. The action of the Portuguese has caused great excitement and indignation,

and it is feared that, notwithstanding the conciliatory attitude of the Sultan, they will commit other acts of hostility."

THE following is going the round of the papers :—

"A curious discovery has been made by the Civil Service Commissioners in England. It is that the candidate who successfully passes his examination is not always the person who under the same name enters upon the duties which the 'pass' secures. To put a stop to this little game, the outcome of competition, it is said that all candidates will in future be required to bring their photographs with them, so that these may be compared with the persons who claim the success."

Well may Mr. ALLAN HUME claim superiority for his people! The Bengalis are 'cute enough, and quite a terror to Asiatic softs. But they are a poor taper to the glorious sun of Western intelligence. And their practices are leaden bluntness itself before the razor-sharpness of those of your genuine Great British! Talk of Indian youth tampering with Question Papers! The bolder British confound and alter the finally announced careful results of the competition.

## Editorial Notes.

WHATEVER legitimate differences of opinion may exist as to the comparative fitness of native and European officers for the executive charge of districts, the success of native judges in civil duty admits of but one opinion. The testimonies of the highest authorities from the Privy Council downwards on this point are remarkable for their unanimity. Distinguished judges of our Presidency High Courts, like Sir BARNES PEACOCK, Sir CHARLES SARGENT, Sir CHARLES TURNER, and Mr. STRAIGHT have expressed their unwavering confidence in the superior judicial capacity of native judges. The revisional functions of these courts of ultimate jurisdiction have afforded them opportunities of observation which must impart special weight to their opinion on the subject. In view of these testimonies, the question of the relative standard of work done by the native as compared with European judiciary might well be considered to be set at rest. But no. The Public Service Commission has lately heard some very disparaging things about them. The statistics of civil litigation however point to a contrary conclusion. A table of these statistics has been prepared by our sturdy fellow-countryman, Mr. Justice NANABHAI HARIDAS, from which it is seen that the proportion of civil appeals from the decisions of European judges, whether Barrister or Civilian, upheld by the High Court is much less than the upheld proportion of the work done by the subordinate judges who are mostly natives.

MR. NANABHAI HARIDAS has prepared five Statements showing the relative quality of the work done by native and European Judges in the decision of criminal cases. These Statements support the same conclusion as the one regarding civil trials. One remarkable fact is shown by these statistics that while only about 73 per cent of the convictions by European Judges are confirmed by the High Court on appeal, all the convictions (cent per cent) by Mr. DESHMUKH, who had never been out of India and had served only as an uncovenanted servant, were confirmed, none being reversed or modified. We are very glad to see this veteran judge hold views identical with our own on the subject of residence in England as a completion of the education of Indian candidates. Like us, the Bombay Judge sees no especial advantages of an English residence. We have seen England returned Indians and had opportunities of testing their advancement in knowledge and ideas. As in every class, the brilliant ones must be few, but of the mediocre generality, we must confess we saw nothing in them ordinarily set down to the account of their English training which they could not acquire here. Mr. NANABHAI'S opinions on this subject thoroughly agree with ours, and indeed form an exception to the general character of native opinions on the subject, which more or less show a leaning in favor of a compulsory or voluntary residence in England. He says :—

"The candidates who pass in India should not be compelled, but may be encouraged to go to England to study there, if they are desirous of doing so. I myself do not think it absolutely necessary that they should go there. During their probation for two years, which the passed candidates have, under the present rules, to spend in England before coming out to India to join their appointments, they are required to study there, (1) Oriental languages (Sanskrit and Indian Vernaculars), (2) the History and Geography of India, (3) Law, and (4) Political Economy. At the Presidency Towns in India there are Arts Colleges and Law Schools, maintained by Government, where all these subjects are taught by well-paid and competent Professors, and the selected Indian candidates may well be allowed, if they prefer it, to

study them there. There are certainly greater facilities for studying the first three of them in India than there can be in England; and the result of the 'periodical examinations' and the 'final examination,' which should be the same for the English and Indian candidates, will soon show whether a better knowledge of them may not be acquired in India than in England. At all events let the Indian candidates have their choice. If it be deemed desirable to remove them from home influences, let those residing in one Presidency be sent to another Presidency. Instead of compelling them to go to England for studying the above subjects, it may be a question whether the English candidates may not, with advantage, be compelled to study them in India. Persons finally appointed to the Civil Service, have during the whole of their official career to deal with the Natives of India in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, to appreciate native evidence, to dispose of disputes between Natives and Natives; and it seems to me that requiring the English candidates to spend their two years of probation in India would better fit them for such their future duties, by enabling them to learn in India the Indian languages, (Classical and Vernacular) form Indian Pandits and Indian Law in Indian Law Schools and High Courts, and, at the same time, by unofficially mixing with the people, to acquire a knowledge of their manners, habits and customs, a knowledge more useful to them than a knowledge of English manners, habits and customs to the Indian candidates, so far as those duties are concerned."

THE prizes and scholarships which have been suggested by way of inducement to natives of India to proceed to England, may, for aught we know, serve the object in view. They may be largely availed of by intending competitors, and may prove so successful as to attract classes that would otherwise have been held back by religious scruples. But that the provision of such scholarships at the expense of the state for the purpose of affording facilities to natives of India to proceed to England, useful or needful as, for the sake of argument, it may be, is an interference on the part of the state with the religious customs of this country, can scarcely be doubted. The good it may do will not avail to alter the religious aspect of the act. The *Hindoo Patriot* has expressed but the bare truth on the subject—a truth which will be readily assented to by genuine Hindoos in general. If a few of our anglicised countrymen do not like the statement, they are welcome to express their opinions, but the absolute correctness of the statement is above dispute.

THE Debrughur Correspondent of the *Statesman* reports a change in the magistracy, Mr. GODFREY, Deputy Commissioner, going on 18 months' furlough, and Mr. B. C. GUIDET, from Jorehaut, having taken charge. According to the character of our people and, in especial, the fashion of the day, the good Debrughurites have resolved to keep green among them the great name of Godfrey. By the bye, it was lucky for them that their Deputy did not rejoice in the patronymic of Snooks. Brown, Jones, and Smith are not lofty surnames, but they are not necessarily provocative of vulgar associations. A Snooks would reduce a pyramid to a laughing-stock. But let us hear the Correspondent:—

"Nothing can better testify to the unfeigned regard Mr. Godfrey had won from the people of this town than the meeting convened by the aristocracy on the eve of his departure to concert the best means of preserving in a suitable way his memory."

"Elite" and "aristocracy" are two words most common in Indian reporting. In the Indian Penal Code there is an ominous chapter devoted to "unlawful assemblies." But out of the law, there can scarcely be a gathering unless it be of *elite* or aristocracy. Frequently, the two are combined in the same place.

There is no doubt a native aristocracy in Assam, consisting of the great families that enjoyed honor and influence in the days of national independence, now alas! reduced to insignificance and trembling before a foreign official of however small a degree, and finally undone by the recent Land Regulations and rules. But it is almost a mockery to call them by the name, and we should think that the wiser men, in very self-respect, shrink from asserting themselves. But these are neither here nor there. What sort of an aristocracy assembled to give brazen immortality to the officer going on furlough, may be imagined from the fact that the chair was given and taken by another official, Babu DOORGADAS DAS, an Engineer in the Public Works Department. It is bad enough that the British magnates are a *soi distant* aristocracy. The degradation will be complete when the native officials contrive to foist themselves on the country as a Brummagem nobility, without dignity or prestige, but armed with power for mischief.

As for these movements springing up everywhere to commemorate the names of the Snooks of the Indian Service, they not only sicken us but cause us despair. What hope is there of a people who have no sense of proportion—in whom the elementary self-respect is wanting?

Of course, our people are not the only offenders. In fact, the greater offenders are the officials who encourage the people to fool themselves to the top of their bent. An Oriental race, long subject to despotism, with traditions of absolute power yet not extinct among them, and, indeed, still feeling their virtual helplessness even under the present regime of law and a higher constitution, may be excused for trying to secure their protection and aggrandisement by lulling their white masters with the incense of an extravagant adoration. But it is passing strange that the District and Divisional officers should lend themselves, to this tomfoolery. It is most lamentable that Englishmen who have no *locus standi* in our country but as teachers and exemplars of a higher civilization should quietly, deliberately, and with relish offer themselves as objects of a new fetishism—as gods for this new cult for worship of officials. We know nothing so contemptible or more demoralising. We have never ceased to point our scorn at the phenomenon, at the risk of no small odium and to the sacrifice of not a few constituents. We now ask our contemporaries' aid in putting down the nuisance.

THE following, which originally appeared in a Bengal paper in January, has just come to our notice:—

"A correspondent writes from Meherpur that on the morning of the 2nd instant pieces of ice were found in the Kalunto, a low tract of country about 8 miles from Meherpur. Three pieces of ice, each about 6 inches long, 4 broad, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch in thickness, were produced by a rayyet from water close to his stock of paddy, and seen by an European. It is very probable that this is the first instance of ice having been found in Lower Bengal so far south as the Murshidabad District."

There is nothing wonderful in the circumstance related, and it is not the first occurrence of ice so far South of the Himalayas, nor the second, nor the third. It is only an example of the shortness of the popular memory. Ice fell or was formed not only in the Moorshedabad District but further down, and that not so many years ago that one might suspect a general climatic revolution. Ices were not unknown in the courts of the Great and the Lesser Moguls, though, of course, they were an expensive luxury confined to the Emperor and the grander grandees. Delhi and Agra depended chiefly on Cashmere for their supplies of congealed water. There in the Himalayan mountains large quantities were collected and stocked during the winter and at great cost regularly conveyed down to the plains at the required time. In Bengal they had no such advantage. Yet the viceregal *dastarkhan* was supplied with congealed *sherbets*. The Hindu and Mahomedan LUCULLUSES too delighted in these delicacies and in cooling beverages. Strange as it may now sound even to Indian ears accustomed to listen to a false and foreign Clio, there were Hindu giants—ministers and general officers and merchant Princes—in those days, and they lived as befitted their positions. Indeed, a Hindu family in Bengal, as it was the richest in all India, so the most magnificent, led the fashion. Being vegetarians on principle, the SETHS of Moorshedabad had nothing to do with cooks of meat. But their *chefs* habitually gave the best meaty flavour to vegetables in a way so as to deceive Mussulman *gourmands*. As might be expected, their family was unrivalled for sweetmeats. Their ices were endless in variety and were sought after by the ruling Nawabs. The superiority of the family in this respect endured to our days. It was a matter of common notoriety when we were at Moorshedabad. And we can never forget the *embarras de riches* with which the late KISHEN CHAND—the veriest scarecrow of an imperial SETH—overwhelmed us at an entertainment at a Suburban garden given by him.

But to return. How were the ices made in former times, before ice could be manufactured or was supplied from America or Europe? The fact is ice was found in the province, in the neighbourhood of the great cities. It would be found even now, if the people had not lost the trick. In secluded fields free from disturbing influences, flat-bottomed earthen plates full of water were placed in the evening in shallow pits surrounded by belts made of paddy-straw. Thus exposed all night to the night dew, the water was found in the morning congealed. These thin pieces were collected together and formed large masses. It was inferior to the rock-like American blocks, but superior, we believe, to the outturn of some of our manufacturing companies, and certainly more clean and wholesome. We never heard of any tadpoles ever found in it. In this way, large quantities were made in Moorshedabad, Rajmahal, and Dacca, in former times. Even in days nearer our own in the British period, Europeans used to depend on this indigenous method. Before the introduction of the American article, ice was regularly made in the

fields of the metropolitan districts. There were pits, we believe, near Barrackpore. Within fifty years ice was thus made in Hoogly. The site of the grounds was immediately in front of the Railway station. European society, consisting as it does of birds of passage, has no memory extending beyond a quarter century at most. How were the incisive experiences of Cabul in 1842 forgotten! How little are the events of the great Mutiny itself remembered! But it is lamentable that the people themselves take so little interest in their own past. It is this indifference and ignorance that we recognise in the marvel that is made in the native press of the discovery of a flake or two of snow in Lower Bengal.

By "Kalunto," we take it the writer means the Kaluntor Beel. We remember the place, having been there with the late Nawab Nazim's shooting expedition. The wild fen country is just the kind of place favorable to the formation of ice.

To the Countess of Dufferin's Fund, the Jubilee has brought a rich harvest. Some splendid donations have been received, among which that of a lac of rupees by the Maharaja of Jeypore is worthy alike of the giver and the cause. The total of the Jubilee collections during the last two months, come up to Rs. 1,47,871-13-0. Of this sum not an inconsiderable portion has been raised by means of the Jubilee cards, which have proved thoroughly successful. Applications for these cards continue to pour in in greater number than the Committee have been able to meet. In response to suggestions which have been communicated to that effect, the Committee have decided to issue, in addition to collecting cards for Rs. 20 and upwards, cards for Rs. 10.—We regret that just at this moment Major COOPER, the Secretary, is compelled to take furlough. Much of the success of the movement has been due to his untiring and judicious activity.

A GENTLEMAN, who brought over from the Andamans the multitudinous batch of convicts released on the proclamation of the Queen as Empress of India, relates a touching incident. Landed at Baboo Ghat, these returned convicts were led to Alipur and housed in what has since become the reformatory, where they remained for their description roll and for arrangements for conducting them under proper escort to their several destinations :—

"Many of their friends or relations collected daily on the road, in hope of getting sight of an acquaintance. One man with a little girl, his daughter, had come all the way from the North-West Provinces to meet the returned wife and mother who was amongst the prisoners. She had been transported for life, and had served ten years at the Andamans. The child now brought down to Calcutta to welcome the mother's return was only six months old when she was sentenced; and she had heard no tidings of either husband or child during all those years in the penal settlement. On the day following the arrival of the ship in Calcutta, this man with his little girl took up a position near the entrance to the compound. The crowd was very dense and the child being frightened began to cry. The cry caught the ear of a woman seated in the compound with her convict husband and two children. She jumped up, flew to the gate, and forcing her way past the sentries who tried to prevent her exit, caught the little girl in her arms, pressed it to her bosom and covered it with kisses. She had not seen the father, but when they recognised each other, there was a sad scene.

The convict husband was bordering on frenzy at the idea of losing his wife and the mother to his children. The woman, however, persisted in clinging to her real husband and nothing could separate them. I was appealed to as officer in charge of the prisoners to decide who was the legal husband, and when the convict husband heard that my decision was against him, he was in great distress, declaring that he would appeal to the great Maharanee to restore her to him. There was another difficulty. Although the woman had fully made up her mind to return to her first husband, she could not bear to leave her two children by the second. Hearing their cries of entreaty to her to return, as she was leaving the compound, she stopped short and stood for a moment irresolute, at last, mustering courage, she bounded back and caught both children in her arms and refused to give them up, appealing to me in accents of despair to interfere on her behalf. When she had somewhat recovered from her passion, I told her there were two courses open to her: either to keep to her convict husband and his children or go back to her first husband without the children, and she finally chose the latter alternative.

When asked how she had distinguished the cry of her child after having been parted from it so many years, she replied 'the sheep knows the bleat of its own lamb, why should I not know the cry of my own child.'

This is the very romance of real life—more literally genuine than the stories of sublimated sentiment and overwrought endurance of Poets' imagining like *Enoch Arden*. Indeed, a Poet, by judicious filling in, might make of the account a good novel or novelette in verse. As it is, the incident easily lends itself to the painter's brush. We commend the meeting of the two families with mother between her children of different fathers, and above all with the wife between a brace of living husbands, as a subject for our local artists.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1887.

### THE CLOSING REIGN IN BENGAL.

IN another fortnight, the Government of Bengal will have changed hands. Sir RIVERS THOMPSON's term of office expires on 1st April, and on the following day, he will make over charge of his portfolio to Sir STEUART BAYLEY. The time is, therefore, come for the press to deliver its opinion on the merits of the administration which is about to close.

Sir RIVERS THOMPSON came to the *musnad* of Belvedere in succession to a ruler who had proved a grievous disappointment. Sir ASHLEY EDEN was a failure, although from no want of natural abilities, or absence of sympathies for the people. Strong and straightforward, of mature experience, versatile knowledge, and, above all, a high order of native intelligence, Sir ASHLEY had rare qualifications for success in the position to which he was called. But he fell on evil times—in evil company. The Viceroyalty of India was now disgraced in a way it had never been disgraced before. Breathing too freely of the atmosphere of Lord LYTON's Court, Sir ASHLEY fell a victim to the blandishments of the day, and prostituted to self-gratification powers and opportunities which were meant for the good of the country. His administration was to him as a long summer holiday, while it was almost a blank to his people. When it came to its end, there was naturally a sense of relief in the country, as at a deliverance from a long suffered infliction. It was at such a time—amidst such feelings working in the public mind—that Sir, then Mr., RIVERS THOMPSON came to the office which he has now filled for the last five years. His appointment was greeted with general satisfaction. Under the circumstances, any succession would have met with a welcome. But the Governor elect came with just the reputation to reassure hope, and enlist support. He was known to be a religious man. While in the Bengal Secretariat, Mr. RIVERS THOMPSON's leanings had appeared to be of the right sort. There were, indeed, some misgivings expressed here and there; his religious character was said to be largely imbued with narrow bigotry. With all his liberal leanings, he was not above partiality for men of Christian profession. Information of the most specific kind regarding his conduct as a judge in the indigo District of Nuddea, and by no means of a kind flattering to his character, was quoted against him. Men with the best opportunities of knowing the truth, said that while deciding cases between Europeans and natives, Mr. RIVERS THOMPSON evidently acted on his faith in the absolute truthfulness of European witnesses. Nay, he is said to have often expressed his inability to believe that a Christian could perjure himself. Such simplicity or prejudice would be hardly credible in a man familiar with the iniquities of the indigo business, if the information were not obtained from the most trustworthy sources. But whatever the misgivings in some quarters, they were kept in the background, and a cordial welcome was given by the entire community to the new ruler, to whom the unanimity of it must have been highly encouraging. The press with one voice supported the appointment. The press is often accused of scurrility, but the word is a relative term. Severity is often times branded with that name. And, when the press is too true to be denied, a charge of

scurrility is the only defence open to the assailed. It is the only device left to sin or *charlatanerie* for turning the tables or creating a diversion. But whether scurrilous or not, the question is, does not the same press usually exhibit, at the opening of an administration, the very opposite temper to what is forced on it later on? Strange as it may sound, the disposition of our press is amiable. There is danger in carrying it too far, but there is no mistake about the fact. It all proceeds from a spirit of loyalty, fairplay and kindness. In the present case, the reception given to Sir RIVERS THOMPSON was generous, as it was general. Any ruler would be touched by it so as never to forget it, but would rather strive to justify it by beneficent, nay, indulgent, administration. At any rate, there was the utmost desire on the part of the press to give Sir RIVERS fairplay. Let us now see how he has repaid the confidence of the people. The press which welcomed him with the blandest smiles, now looks sour and cross. It has been disappointed, and it gives vent to its feeling in the tone proper to the injured. Is this tone warranted? Is the disappointment real? or is the language of the press but a passing ebullition of perversity or petulance?

In ordinary times, Sir RIVERS might have completed his administration and retired as an ordinarily successful ruler. For routine work success, his qualifications were ample. Without being brilliant, he is a fairly accomplished man of the usual type. Nor were opportunities wanting for achieving some degree of renown. By just falling in with the spirit of Local Self-Government which Lord RIPON's sympathetic policy had pushed to the forefront—by a policy of activity in the prosecution of works of public utility for which the scheme of financial decentralization had provided sufficient ways and means—by mere profession of sympathy with the educational and political movement which was making more noise than real progress among the people, Sir RIVERS THOMPSON might well achieve a celebrity, as celebrity goes in these easy-going times. Nor is his administration altogether destitute of claims upon the indulgent consideration of the people. He has fostered the new scheme of Local Self-Government with judicious sympathy. The fears of official interference with the liberty of the municipal and Local Boards have been disproved by the event. Perhaps official interference might more actively and cordially be employed in preventing scandals, reconciling parties, and restoring harmony. Such sympathetic administration is, however, against the grain of British officialism. Yet to be able to say, that there has not been any interference of the thwarting adverse kind, is no small praise. How far Sir RIVERS THOMPSON has been at heart favorably disposed towards this experiment in administrative reform, has been a subject of speculation among our politicians. Some of his own utterances, of late on the subject seemed also to indicate his waning faith in the lasting capacity and ultimate success of the measure. Sir RIVERS has been a zealous friend of native female education which during his administration has received an impetus that will do much to stimulate its progress. Sir RIVERS THOMPSON's excise policy has, it must be confessed, given some temporary check to the growth of intemperance in the country. But the continued maintenance of the outstill system, as the best preventive of smuggling in the sparsely peopled parts of the country, will gradually be followed by a multiplication of stills on that system and a consequent cheapening of

liquor which cannot fail to have the most disastrous effects upon the material and moral condition of the people. However well disposed might Sir RIVERS personally be towards a reform of the excise, his Excise Commission failed to suggest a thorough and effective scheme. Some of the Commission's recommendations are nevertheless calculated to minimise the evil. Sir RIVERS THOMPSON has doubtless done other good things in other departments of the Government. But he labored under a constitutional narrowness of sympathy. His race prejudice and sectarian partialities have been fatal to his success as ruler of a diverse population. Indeed, were it not for the exceptional circumstances which arose during his administration, he might have left behind him the name of a fairly successful and popular ruler. But the Ilbert Bill controversy revealed the cloven foot. His behaviour during that controversy proved the grave of his good name, so far at least as the people of this country are concerned. They, at any rate, cannot forget or forgive the part he took during that unfortunate crisis, just as Anglo-Indians are bound to be grateful to him for the weight of personal authority which he threw into their scale.

None knew better than Sir RIVERS that the measure, if passed in its integrity, would have had only an infinitesimal effect upon the administrative machinery. At the best, one or two Native Magistrates would have acquired a jurisdiction over European accused, while a slur would have been removed from the Indian judiciary the presence of which was a blot on the statute book. But the worse features of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON's disposition now manifested themselves. His national partiality—his religious bigotry had free play, and he felt no scruples to put himself in a position of open defiance not merely to a proposal of the Viceroy but the express policy of the Crown. He ostentatiously put himself at the head of the Anglo-Indian party at a time when that party were openly threatening the peace and tranquillity of the country. Sir RIVERS, of course, made himself an idol with the Anglo-Indians, but he thereby created a breach between them and the people of this country which will take generations of equal and firm government to remove. It was fortunate Sir RIVERS had to deal with a weak man of prayer in the Viceroyalty. Not to speak of a DALHOUSIE, even a CANNING or an ELGIN would have suppressed a disloyal lieutenant without much ceremony. An ASHLEY EDEN as Viceroy would not have shown quarter to an act of official indiscipline which might easily have precipitated a white rebellion.

Sir RIVERS THOMPSON's unpopularity with the people is universal. The intelligent national sentiment as well as the uninformed feeling of the mass of the people, is against him. Europeans are too ready to discredit the native press, native Associations, and native Congresses as merely sectional in their character. It is often said that they represent only the educated class, which, compared with the mass of the population, is like a drop in the ocean. In endeavouring to refute the opinions of Mr. SAMUEL SMITH, M.P., Sir GRANT DUFF, in his articles in the *Contemporary Review*, says that Mr. SMITH's views are the views not of natives in general, but of such natives as came in contact with a superficial globe-trotter. These were the graduates of the University of Madras who are to the population as thirtyeight to a million. "The sort of views with which Mr. SMITH credits 'his natives' are only put forward by a mere fraction of this frac-

tion, and the very limited number of persons chiefly professional writers of the press whom they can influence—a press, which, be it observed, has the smallest circulation.” Without arguing against this point, we say that so far as Sir RIVERS THOMPSON is concerned, the ill name he has got is by no means confined to the press, or the educated class. The mass of the people have come, somehow or other, to associate him with a policy, which vague and shadowy as may be, their conception or knowledge of the course of the closing administration, is, in their eyes, inimical to the interests of the country. Rightly or wrongly, ignorantly or intelligently, they have formed their ideas of the retiring Governor as one who was no friend to the people. This is the sentiment of that mass upon whose genuine views English statesmen are so ready to rest the case for British rule in India. If a *plebiscite* were taken on the administration of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON, that would be its deliverance. It would no doubt be extremely unpalatable to Sir RIVERS and his friends—much more unpalatable in its bluntness and grossness than the discriminating verdict of the native press. But that is the national verdict.

If, notwithstanding the prevailing national sentiment of disapprobation towards the retiring Governor, an attempt has been made to pay him farewell honors, it must be recollected, the movement is mainly of the Anglo-Indians. They are besides but farewell honors and nothing more than a conventional formality. That Sir RIVERS THOMPSON should be held in the highest admiration by the Anglo-Indians of Calcutta and in the provinces at large, is natural. Their victory in the Ilbert Bill contest was due to Sir RIVERS. From the very moment when his narrow Christianity and his unEnglish Britisherism drove Sir RIVERS to take up a position of undisguised hostility to the people, it is to the European community that he also naturally looked for support. So far as Sir R. THOMPSON's parting honors come from his countrymen, there is no reason to question their spontaneity and sincerity. The case is quite otherwise, however, with his Mahomedan and Hindu friends and admirers. They have joined in the demonstration from merely those amiable motives which are too characteristic of our countrymen, or from motives of gratitude for favors received, or that other gratitude which has been defined to be a lively sense of favors to come. A man in the position of a great ruler, wielding extensive power and patronage, cannot want a following to give his departure the air of a triumph. How many have received obligations at his hands! How great still in his retirement must be his power to do one a good turn! For the rest, political notions have as yet but a weak hold on the people of this country. Political progress is in its infancy. The Mahomedans are admittedly much backward in their progress. Amongst the other sections of the people, the progress of political ideas is more or less in its incipient stage. That progress depends upon the progress of education for its sustenance, and who will say that the schoolmaster has been abroad in adequate force? But the memorial movement is well known to be a sham—to none so well as to the wirepullers. His admirers did not dare to call a public meeting. To a hole and corner affair like the Town Hall demonstration, Sir RIVERS THOMPSON is quite welcome, for want of a better, but the Nemesis of history does not sleep. The verdict of the people will be the verdict of posterity.

#### PUFFERY LOYAL IN PEDDLINGTON.

MADRAS is in the full swing of a reaction. The joy of relief from the incubus of Sir Grant Duff is so excessive as to upset our friends down South. The mere departure of their late Governor they were prepared to regard as a blessing. But Providence has been truly kind to them in granting them a really good successor to Sir Mounstuart. And they are making the most of their new possession—with a vengeance, perhaps. They are embracing and kissing it and hugging it to their bosom with the greatest gush imaginable. The pent up loyalty of years which the supercilious Duff, in his conceit of superiority, did not care to draw up, is simply overflowing upon a Governor who respects himself and knows his duty too much to make it his business to insult the Queen's subjects placed for the time under him. This is natural; any average being is hailed as an angel of good who follows an ogre of peril. Mr. Bourke is lucky in an almost assured reputation for simply coming after his predecessor. But there is danger in excess of all kinds, and the Madrasces are clearly overdoing their part. The new Governor is shot to the skies on every pretext. He is petted with wild distraction. There is a perfect Eulogomania in that quarter.

Just observe the fooling of our Southern friends over the unveiling of the portrait of Mr. Adam, a former Governor! How madly they are all shouting themselves hoarse over a trifle! How hysterical are they in their satisfaction with their Governor for his little share in a little matter! It is a small affair in all conscience, from beginning to end, and none but Madrasces would think of spending heroics upon it. A portrait of the late Mr. Adam, who had scarcely been permitted by death to be Governor of Madras, had arrived, a present from his widow to the Government of Madras. It was almost a private matter about an almost private person. The portrait was private gift, and it was intended for Government House, which, though a public place, is inaccessible to the general. Mr. Adam's career having been nipped in the bud, he had had no opportunity of establishing a public character in Madras. The portrait is no public memorial and it merited no special recognition. It would have been enough if the Government sent a cordial letter of acknowledgment in return for it. There was certainly no excuse for making such a fuss about it as was made. Probably, Mrs. Adam had wished for a demonstration. Perhaps, it was only the generosity of Mr. Bourke's gushing Irish nature.

The Governor gave the portrait all possible dignity. He got up a demonstration in connection with it by formally opening it in public and presiding himself on the occasion. This was as much as he could do, and it was more than enough. Strictly speaking, perhaps he rather stepped out of his duty. But he could scarcely avoid it if requested. We prefer to think that his genuine nature suggested the move to him. But he probably regarded the whole thing as more of a personal than public kind, belonging more to the amenities of social intercourse than to the duties of his office. It would never have occurred to him to claim any merit for his share in it. Not so his enthusiastic admirers. There is no language too high for expressing their appreciation.

Mr. Bourke's own speech is proof that he laid no exaggerated stress on the business. He had too great a respect for himself and his audience to claim the subject of the portrait as an object of interest to Madras. This is all that he said:—

“Ladies and Gentlemen.—Having received a letter from Lady Adam a few days ago, telling me that she had sent a portrait of her late husband to Madras, I did not wish it to be placed in this Banqueting Hall in silence, and without endeavouring to mark the occasion in a manner respectful to Mr. Adam's memory. I have therefore asked those personal friends of Mr. Adam's, who are still in Madras, to assemble here this afternoon. Ladies and Gentlemen, Mr. Adam was a man who had hosts of friends at home, and was universally beloved in private life. I was separated from him in politics, but I enjoyed his personal friendship, and knew him sufficiently well to appreciate those qualities for which he was held in high estimation by those with whom he most associated. Like the majority of our best public men at home, he devoted his life to the service of his party, and laboured indefatigably and honourably for its success. I have no doubt that it was his great love and loyalty to his Chief, which induced him to undertake enormous labour not only in the House of Commons, but also in the country



and more particularly in Scotland, and it was owing, I believe, to these labours that the seeds of that disease were laid which eventually deprived the country of his services. When he was appointed to the Government of Madras, it seemed to give him much pleasure, and his friends believed that his patience, kindness of heart, knowledge of mankind, and good sense, would secure for him a term of office distinguished and satisfactory. From all I have heard since I came to Madras, I feel convinced that during the six months of his rule he made himself universally beloved and respected and I have no doubt whatever that, had it pleased the Almighty to spare his life, his tenure of office would have terminated as happily as it had begun, and he would have left behind a reputation as high as any of his predecessors; but this was not to be, and he fell just as much at the post of duty as a soldier does when he meets with a soldier's death. Her Majesty was pleased to recognize his services conferring a Baronetcy upon his son and by raising his widow to the rank of a Baronet's wife. I hope it may be gratifying to his friends at home to hear of this simple ceremony of today; most especially I hope it may be some consolation to his bereaved and sorrowing widow, who has, in tender and loving memory of her husband, sent this picture to take a worthy place amongst the portraits of those who, like him, have endeavoured to do their duty to their country and to uphold the good name of England amongst the native of India. I have now only to unveil this picture and declare it to be property of the Government of Madras."

The whole was, professedly, from beginning to end, a private demonstration—a hole and corner affair, even though the scene was laid in the Governor's Banqueting Hall. The only legitimate treatment for it, is for the press to report it and for the public to read it and forget it. But such is the profoundly Pedlingtonian character of the Indian Press that we have the leading papers of the Presidency commenting on it in the most gushing terms. The *Madras Times* says :—

"His Excellency, the Governor, has added yet another corner-stone to the solid structure of universal esteem and popularity he is so rapidly building for himself in Madras."

The others, native and European, follow suit. The pean is echoed back from the distant shores of the Malabar Coast. We read in the *Malabar and Travancore Spectator* as follows :—

"There is nothing more noble and magnanimous than for one great man to do justice to another great one, and Mr. Bourke, our popular Governor, did a noble and magnanimous act when he paid a high tribute to the honored memory of one of his predecessors—the late Mr. W. P. Adam, whose portrait was unveiled at the banquetting Hall, Madras, the other day. Mr. Bourke, with that frankness which is the leading trait in his character, extolled the virtues of the late, lamented Mr. Adam, and all Madras and the mofussil will love him all the more for his genuine courtesy and his justice to the departed."

"The metropolis of the southern presidency now holds the portrait of one who gave every promise of being a good ruler, who during the short time he ruled, endeared himself to the hearts of the people, but whom the 'ruthless Reaper' with his sickle keen cut off prematurely from the scene of his labors. And while we pay this deserved homage to the memory of one who has gone from earth, it is only just to the living to add that in our present Governor we have one who is almost a prototype of Mr. Adam, and one whom that great man would have been proud to have as a successor."

There is no meaning in all that. We have too much respect for the talents and independence of our contemporary to assign a discreditable meaning to it, but enemies will not be so charitable, and there is handle enough given to the best friends for "chaff" for a whole year. Mr. Bourke must himself regret that he gave the business any colourable public character.

#### THE RUNGPORE DEER-SHOOTING CASE.

WITH regard to the resolution recently published by His Honor Sir Rivers Thompson, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, I should like to point out one or two subjects which require the serious notice of the Government of India. In the Government letter, dated 23rd October 1886, I find written the following: "It is clear I think that the prosecution of Prosunno Moyi was not the result of any private animosity on the part of Mr. Shuttleworth against Annoda Baboo." This, like the resolution of Sir Alfred Lyall in the Laidman case, is only an attempt to screen the local district officials from the just punishment which ought to have been meted out to them one and all, for their misdoings and perversion of justice in this case, and with the sentence quoted from the resolution I totally and emphatically differ.

All those who have ever had anything to do with Zemindaris and Zemindari interests, well know what undue pressure can be and

would be brought by district officials against all such Zemindars and Rajwarras who dared to refuse the loan of their elephants for the district officers' private use, especially if those elephants happened to be good howdah shikari animals.

There can be but little doubt in the minds of all those who are cognizant of these facts, that the refusal of Annoda Baboo to lend his elephant was the real cause of the murder of that lady Prosunno Moyi's pet deer. In support of this assertion, I will here relate three distinct instances of this sort of feeling which have come under my personal observation, which will clearly go to prove what treatment wealthy natives must expect and do suffer if they have the barefaced effrontery to refuse to lend their own elephants, their private property, to the district officers.

If elephants are required, as one must admit they often are, in the jungly districts, it is the duty of the Government to supply them to their Civil Officers, and not compel these officers to demean themselves and perhaps court the indignity of a refusal when they ask them as a favor as a loan from the rich Zemindars and Rajwarras of their districts, such request as loans being often in the shape and form of a demand.

In fact this compulsory loan of shikari elephants in some districts of Oudh and the North West Provinces, has become such a nuisance that many wealthy Zemindars and Rajwarras now-a-days will not keep private elephants, and, if they do, keep only such animals as are not suitable for howdah or shikari purposes.

First instance. Many years ago I was at a large fair with other gentlemen, and, amongst ourselves and some wealthy natives, we got up two or three days' wrestling matches. I was at the time the guest of a young Civilian. My friend was a perfect gentleman in every way and a most generous hearted man. We made a large Akhara for the wrestlers and surrounded it with high tent kanats. We made all the "OiPolloi" entering the enclosure pay a small entrance fee of which I was entrusted with the superintendence and collection. We and some native gentlemen paid a handsome subscription and had a tent with chairs for our convenience. The Raja of A. came on an elephant and stood looking over the kanat. I threw goodnaturedly at him a few loose clods of earth to drive him away or induce him to come into the enclosure and tent and pay his subscription as a gentleman. He had on the elephant with him two attendants, one carrying his gun and another his rifle. He likewise had his sword with him and servants with one or two talwars. I pointed out to my friend that the Raja was standing outside and looking at the Tamasha and asked him to persuade him to come in and pay his subscription fee. He looked up and said "By Jove it's the Raja of A." he would not lend me his elephant the other day when I wanted to go out shooting. I'll take the shine out of him for that and he won't refuse me again in a hurry. He then ordered two or three chuprassies and police to take his arms away from him as it was contrary to law to attend a large fair armed with armed retainers. Of course, if the loan of the elephant had not been refused, no notice would have been taken of this breach of law, nor would the Raja of A. have been submitted to such an indignity as that of being publicly disarmed. My friend was only a very small district official.

Second Instance. A friend of mine (not a district official) once borrowed an elephant for a shikar party from the Raja of B. The elephant was a particularly good shikari howdah elephant and always used by the senior district officer in his shooting excursions. A short time after it had been out with my friend, he received an express from the Raja of B. begging him to return the elephant and enclosing a letter from the District Officer to this effect:

"C. D. District Officer of Damnbad wishes to know why the Raja of B. has lent his the District Officer's shikari elephant to Mr. Non-official without his the District Officer's permission and approval."

Third Instance. The District Officer's nephew had the use of a shikari elephant that his uncle had borrowed from the Rani of E. A few days before I joined the party, the Rani's elephant had been badly bitten in a scrimmage by a tiger in the tail. In one of the beats we halted in the vicinity of the Rani's fort. She sent her Karinda with a polite message to the district officer's nephew saying that she had heard that her elephant, which was a great pet, had been wounded, and requested that it might be sent over to her as she would like to see herself what damage it had sustained. Our district officer's nephew, in reply to this polite and reasonable request, poured out a volume of foul Hindustani abuse and did not stop his invectives till I told him his conduct was unbecoming that of an English gentleman, that the Rani, to all intents and purposes, was a lady, and her servant who had been sent on a reasonable request ought to be treated with every respect.



None of these three cases are exaggerated in one tittle and are only common instances of occurrences that do often occur in our districts, where natives do not dare to complain of such like treatment from their district officials. Do the Civilians of districts take this flattering unction to their souls that the loans of elephants, camels, horses, carriages, tents, houses, &c., &c., are made for the sake of friendship or respect? I trow not. In most cases, they are simply lent as a kind of bribe, or to bring the owner of the articles so lent into the favor of those District officials in anticipation as one might say so as to secure his good offices in case they might be needed.

There is an order extant and I believe in force in the Bengal Civil Service regulations, which forbids Civilians to borrow certain articles from the Natives of their districts, such as camels, horses, carriages, palkees, boats, tents, houses, &c., &c. I do not know for certain if elephants come under the category of articles it is forbidden to borrow, but this I do know is the fact that this Order is often honored in the breach than in the observance, for what District officer is there who does not borrow horses and carriages and get wealthy natives to lay out daks for him to enable him to carry out his official duties and then fraudulently charge the Government with travelling and deputation allowances?

If the regulation to which I allude is extant and still in force, it is the duty of the Government to take stringent measures and see that their orders and regulations are enforced and that those who are placed to carry out and administer the laws should be compelled to obey those laws or, if they chose to break them, suitable punishment shall be meted out for each infraction or, if the Government will not do this, let them repeal those orders and regulations and permit Civilians in their districts, as in the good old days, to borrow what they like from a rupee to a lac.

ANDREW HEARSEY.

March 14th, 1887.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

### CHARITY AND STATE RECOGNITION.

SIR,—In noticing in your last issue the letter published in the *Indian Daily News* under the signature "Howrahite," you have missed a far more important issue than that involved in the foolish indignation of the writer at, what he says, the preference shown for Bali Howrah. Of course, with your usual felicity of diction and your remarkable capacity of exposing ignorance and snobbishness by a sentence or two of singular suggestiveness, you have shown the absurdity of the indignation in which the *Daily News*' scribe has indulged. But then there is something else to which I would draw your attention.

The two gentlemen whom the *Daily News*' scribe has taken under his shelter are Babus Kader Nath Bhuttacherjee and Chunder Kumar Banerjee. I understand that Babu Bhuttacherjee is recommended for a *Rai Bahadurship* on the ground of "efficient discharge" of his duties as Vice-Chairman of the Howrah Municipality. There are, as you have justly said, hundreds of Vice-Chairmen throughout the country, and if one is honored, why not the others? If it be pretended that Babu Bhuttacherjee's case is exceptional, permit me to say that as Vice-Chairman Babu Bhuttacherjee has betrayed nothing but incompetence. His administration has been distinguished for its inefficiency. The Municipal accounts are a mass of confusion. Defalcations of public money are almost the order of the day. The cashier has just made himself scarce, his accounts having shown a defalcation of about Rs. 900. It is believed that further enquiry will bring to light other defalcations more or less heavy. These have commenced from September 1885. If only the most ordinary checks had been exercised, such robbery of the ratepayers would not have been possible. It was only the other day that a Conservancy Overseer was dismissed for having misappropriated several items of public money. The fact is Municipal accounts are Greek to Babu Bhuttacherjee. Regarding his capacity for conducting the duties of his office, it is well-known that he cannot parse or even read with correct emphasis and accentuation many of the letters to which he has to put his signature. Government may honor him if it likes, but let not the ground of honor be "the efficient discharge" of his duties as Vice-Chairman.

As regards the other gentleman who also is sought to be smuggled into the inferior "peerage" of the realm, the grounds alleged are his "public spirit" and "charities." The other day a letter appeared in the *Statesman* setting forth some particulars of these virtues. I have the authority of one of the highest officers of the

Government in saying that upon inquiry many of the statements made in the *Statesman*'s local columns regarding this gentleman have been found to be pure inventions. The fact is, everything this gentleman says he intends to do is advertised in the newspapers as already done. For the last six years or more, he has been giving the people of Seebpore a set of *Gungabesee* rooms. In the language again of the *Statesman*'s scribe the Boboo is erecting a fine and spacious shed at a bathing ghat this side the river for the accommodation of female bathers. Unfortunately, human eyes are incapable of detecting even a single brick on the site of this supposed construction. In one respect, the Babu is fortunate in the possession of literary friends whose consciences are very elastic, for does he not subscribe with fifty other residents for the building recently purchased for the local English school? Forthwith, in the language of the *Statesman*'s scribe, "he has given the Seebpore English School a fine commodious building which the institution may now call its own." Of course, the *Statesman*'s paragraph provoked a contradiction, but with that sense of what is due to the public after publishing such a letter, the *Statesman* discovered that "the subject has lost its importance" and, therefore, the contradiction was suppressed.

It is always an unpleasant task to expose exaggeration of this kind. One doing it cannot escape the imputation of motives. I will, therefore, desist. Permit me, however, before I lay down the pen, to mention that a far worthier person to honor this side the river is Babu Ram Chunder Roy Chowdhury. He is the eldest representative of the old landed house of the Roy Chowdhuries of Seebpore. In recognition of his distinguished services during the Mutiny, services that led to the maintenance of law and authority at Sahargathy in Behar at a time when British prosperity was at its lowest ebb in that province, a member of this house was honored by Lord Canning with a substantial *khelat*. The Roy Chowdhuries of Seebpore took an active part in giving the Howrah Government School its present substantial building, Babu Ram Chunder himself has given to the public a set of *Gungabesee* rooms—the like of which does not exist along a river-frontage of more than two miles northwards from the Botanical Gardens. The esteem in which he is held by the people will at once appear from the fact that during the last elections he polled the largest number of votes amongst all who had appeared as candidates for Municipal Commissionerships. The fact is, with frequent changes in the personnel of the District administration, they only came to the front who are themselves noisy or have noisy friends, while men truly respected by the people for birth, blood, and virtues are systematically ignored.

FACT.

Seebpore, 15th March 1887.

### UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

SIR,—The present system of conducting the University examinations needs some useful modifications.

In the F. A. examination, for instance, no candidate is allowed to take up Bengali as the second language, while there are a number of other languages for their choice.

Now the common run of Bengali students, as a rule, prefer their own vernacular to any other language, even to Sanskrit which they are compelled to take up as the second language.

The Sanskrit, as the most difficult of languages, is what the ordinary students do not like to read; nor are they to blame for it. The period of teaching Sanskrit in the Schools is too short for them to obtain a fair knowledge of it. The Sanskrit text-books present all sorts of difficulties, and the poor students have at last to learn everything by rote, which, however, soon escapes their memory. This indeed is the most terrible ordeal they have to undergo during their college career. And it is possible to mention several cases of students, who, otherwise very intelligent, have failed in the examinations for their weakness in Sanskrit.

I see no reason why Bengali should not be added to the list of second languages for the F. A. examination. In fact, it would be a stimulus to the students who are steadily advancing to the goal of English education.

JOGESH CHANDRA SEN.

College Square, the 27th February 1887.

### BENGAL ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

SIR,—The following arrangement has been recently made to fill up some long-standing vacancies in the office of the Accountant-General, Bengal. Mr. J. Andrews who stood 46th in the grade 40 rising to 55, has been promoted to the grade 60 to 85. Mr. E. H. S. Williamson who stood 81st in the same grade has also been promoted to the same grade. Mr. A. E. Thomas who stood 30th and Mr. J. D. Thompson who stood 40th or last in the list of supernumeraries getting 30 per month, have been promoted to the grade of 40 to 55. It will be seen from the above statement that a wholesale supersession of native officers has taken place in the office. Was there no native in the office fit for promotion? Are proceedings like these calculated to promote that friendly feeling which should subsist among all the subjects of Her Imperial Majesty? On the contrary, are they not

likely to widen the gulf unfortunately created by the Ilbert Bill? I can not believe that the Accountant-General took any pains himself to ascertain the qualifications of the Native officers whose claims have been thus ignominiously ignored. I have a strong suspicion that he has been a mere tool in the hands of men immediately under him.

## GRIEVANCE.

Calcutta, 17th March, 1887.

## THE LATE HENRY FAWCETT.

SIR,—The papers received by the last mail give an account of the "English National Fawcett Memorial." The total subscriptions to the Fund amount to £4,213, including £1,085 contributed by *employes* and officials in the Postal Department. After erecting the Memorial in Westminster Abbey, the Committee has been able to establish a Fund for a University scholarship tenable by the blind, and another Fund for the higher education of the blind in connection with the Royal Normal College at Upper Norwood. Thus his English friends have done their duty. All honor to them. But what have the people of India done in honor of their benefactor? More than once, through the medium of the press, I urged the subject upon their attention, but no response was made to the call. It is with unfeigned pleasure therefore that I see that some of the leading Native papers have taken up the matter in right earnest. In its issue of the 26th ult., the *Bengalee* very justly reproaches us for our indifference and apathy in this matter, wherein your contemporary offers a lamentable contrast of our conduct with that of the deceased's English friends. As I have already had occasion to say much on the subject, I will not dwell at length thereon here. It is really a great shame to us as a nation that we have yet been unable to do anything whatever to perpetuate the memory of a man of whom we received so varied and valuable benefits. But to make the case worse, we have not even done anything to show our regret at such a man's death! Hitherto, we have enjoyed the reputation of being the most grateful people on earth; but are we not now by our own conduct gradually losing that enviable reputation? Leave aside the case of the "Member for India," and take those of others that have also equally benefited us. For instance, what have we really done for Lord Ripon whom during his sojourn here we used to love and venerate almost to idolatry? What again have we done for the lamented Kristodas Pal? Do these neglects show the gratitude we pretend to have? There is no stint in our professions, but when called upon to show them practically, we only cut a sorry figure! We only clamour for political rights and privileges, but how can we expect that they should be conceded to us when we have not the slightest sense either of self honor or propriety so egregiously shown, and which are the first two essentials in man?

KISSORY NATHA MITRA.

CALCUTTA,  
March 3, 1887.

## BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 7th March 1887.—Baboo Jogendro Nath Bando-padhya, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dinagepore, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VII (B.C.) of 1880 in that district.

The 9th March 1887.—Mr. J. H. Bernard, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Sarun.

The 10th March 1887.—Mr. A. D'B. Gomess, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted temporarily to the Sudder station of the Hooghly district.

The 12th March 1887.—Mr. F. S. Hamilton, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Monghyr, is transferred to Gya, and is appointed to have charge of the Nowada sub-division of that district.

The 14th March 1887.—Mr. R. F. Rampini, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Mymensingh, is appointed to be the District and Sessions Judge of Burdwan.

Mr. J. Pratt, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Mymensingh, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. J. F. Stevens, or until further orders.

Mr. W. H. Page, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Dacca, is confirmed in that appointment.

The 15th March 1887.—Baboo Komul Narain Chuckerbutty, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Hooghly, is allowed leave for two

*Holloway's Pills.*—Indigestion and Liver Complaints.—The digestion cannot be long or seriously disordered without the derangement being perceptible on the countenance. These Pills prevent both unpleasant consequences; they improve the appetite, and with the increase of desire for food, they augment the powers of digestion and assimilation in the stomach. Holloway's Pills deal most satisfactorily with deranged or diseased conditions of the many organs engaged in extracting nourishment for our bodies from our various diets—as the liver, stomach and bowels, over all of which they exercise the most salutary control. By resorting at an early stage of this malady to these purifying and laxative Pills, the dyspeptic is speedily restored to health and strength, and his sallowness gradually vanishes.

months and six days, under rule 2, section 138 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st May next, or from such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Hurro Chunder Ghose, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Burdwan, is transferred to Hooghly, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Mr. W. H. Grimley, Magistrate and Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, on deputation as Income-tax Commissioner, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Midnapore, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. R. H. Wilson, or until further orders.

JUDICIAL.—The 9th March 1887.—Mr. J. H. Bernard, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Sarun, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

The 10th March 1887.—Baboo Okhoy Coomar Chowdhry, Sub-Deputy Collector, Deoghur, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

The 11th March 1887.—Under section 12 of the European Vagrancy Act IX of 1874, Mr. F. M. Halliday is appointed to be President of the Committee of management of the Government Work-House, Calcutta, *vice* Mr. H. A. Cockerell, c. s. 1.

The 14th March 1887.—Baboo Upendro Nath Bose, Munsif of Furreedpore, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Dacca, to be ordinarily stationed at Moonsheegunge, but will continue to act, until further orders, as Third Munsif of Burrisal, in the district of Backergunge.

Baboo Tara Prasanna Banerjee, Second Munsif of Moonsheegunge, Dacca, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Sarun, to be ordinarily stationed at Motihari.

Baboo Hem Chunder Mitter, Munsif of Motihari, Sarun, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Backergunge, to be ordinarily stationed at Burrisal.

Baboo Surja Narain Das, Third Munsif, Burrisal, Backergunge, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Bankoora, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sudder station of that district.

Baboo Nil Madhub Mookerjee, Munsif of Bankoora, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Dinagepore, to be ordinarily stationed at Thakurgaon.

Baboo Mohim Chunder Sircar, Munsif of Thakurgaon, Dinagepore, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Furreedpore, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sudder station of that district.

The 15th March 1887.—Mr. T. Jones, Barrister-at-Law, Officiating Third Judge of the Court of Small Causes, Calcutta, is appointed to act as Second Judge of that Court, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. R. S. T. MacEwen, or until further orders.

Baboo Sree Nath Roy, Officiating Fourth Judge of the Court of Small Causes, Calcutta, is appointed to act as Third Judge of that Court, during the absence, on furlough, of Mr. G. C. Sconce, or until further orders.

Mr. O. Beeby, Barrister-at-Law, is appointed to act as Fourth Judge of the Court of Small Causes, Calcutta, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. T. Jones, or until further orders.

Mr. C. W. E. Pittar, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Cuttack, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

Baboo Lal Behari Bhaduri, M.A. & B.L., is appointed to act as an Additional Munsif in the district of Chittagong, to be ordinarily stationed at North Patiya.

GRANT OF LEAVE TO MUNSIFS.—The 10th March 1887.—Baboo Surjonarain Dass, Fourth Munsif of Burrisal, in the district of Backergunge, is allowed leave for 15 days, under section 73, ruled I, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 2nd December 1886.

The 12th March 1887.—Baboo Mohendro Lal Ghose, Munsif of Chattra, in the district of Chota Nagpore, is allowed leave for one month, under section 73, rule 2, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 18th January last.

The 14th March 1887.—Baboo Ram Jadub Talapatra, Munsif of Sherepore, in the district of Mymensingh, is allowed leave for 17 days, under section 73, rule 1, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 8th December 1886.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1887.

No. 266

## The Week.

THE Prince of Wales arrived at Berlin to be present at the celebration of Emperor WILLIAM'S 90th birth day. We learn from a subsequent telegram that the celebration was a most imposing ceremonial, and great popular enthusiasm prevailed throughout the country.

A RUSSIAN Ukase has been issued directing the expropriation of land for continuing the railway to Samarcand.

IT is by a small majority of 41 that the Cloture Rule for the conduct of business in the House of Commons has been adopted, the votes being 262 against 221. The rule comes into operation immediately.

IN the House of Commons, Mr. BALFOUR, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, has given notice that he would move the introduction of the Crimes Bill on the 22nd March and move precedence for the same. The Right Hon. JOHN MORLEY also gave notice of a motion, that, he would oppose precedence being given without a guarantee against excessive rents. The Government seems to be very sensitive on the point as they have threatened to resign if the Crimes Bill be disapproved. They have promised, however, to introduce measures relating to land, on an early day.

GREAT excitement prevails in Dublin over the arrest of Father KELLER, a Roman Catholic Priest, on a charge of contempt for his refusal to answer questions put to him by the Dublin Bankruptcy Court in the trial of some defaulting tenants in his parish. A strong constabulary force was necessary to take him to prison, while he was greeted with ovations everywhere on his way. Father KELLER'S arrest formed the subject of an animated discussion in the House of Commons. The Parnellites condemned the action of Government and accused it of wilfully exasperating the Irish people in order to procure justification for their coercive measures. Mr. ARTHUR BALFOUR, Secretary for Ireland, indignantly repelled the charge and laid the responsibility for all the disorder on the heads of the agitation which is being carried on according to the Plan of Campaign.

In the meantime, the Irish members are as obstructive as ever. The House of Commons sat all through Monday night and adjourned at one O'clock the next day, resuming its sittings again at four O'clock.

MR. J. K. CROSS, formerly Under-Secretary of State for India, has committed suicide owing to ill health. A politician of great promise, his death is a great loss to the Liberal party. For the people of India, he had great sympathies.

THE following answers were given to important interpellations in the House of Commons:—

In answer to Mr. Webster,  
Mr. A. J. Balfour stated that he was unable to give any date on which the report of the Royal Commission on the gold and silver currency would be issued; but he could assure the hon. member that, so far as he was aware, the Commissioners were not anxious to prolong the inquiry, which was extremely laborious and very intricate.

In answer to Mr. Maclure,  
Sir J. Gorst said: The estimated capital expended on Indian railways for the year ending March 31, 1887, is 974 lakhs—512 by the Government of India, 462 by guaranteed and subsidized companies. By

the end of 1887 it is estimated 1,167 additional miles of railway will be opened. The Mandalay Railway (220 miles) was authorized as a State line by the Secretary of State in November, 1886, and work has now been begun at both ends of the line. The construction of the Bengal Nagpur Railway (784 miles) has been intrusted to a guaranteed company. The Bolan Railway to Quetta and certain sections of the Scinde-Pishin Railway beyond Quetta will be opened to the public by the end of March; 90 miles of the Bombay-Kistna Railway will be opened immediately. It is expected that about 100 miles of the Indian Midland, which is being constructed in its several sections simultaneously, will be opened in the course of the year. In addition to these about 220 miles of the Southern Mahratta Company's system has been opened since September 30, 1886.

Sir J. Gorst, in reply to Mr. King said: The total amount of pensions paid in England for Indian services in 1885-6 was £2,032,905, made up thus:—Covenanted civilians, £428,817; military officers, £1,459,593; officers of the uncovenanted service, £81,219; others (i.e., High Court judges, Indian navy, Bengal pilot service), £63,276. The pensions of covenanted civilians and military officers are fixed and paid in sterling currency. Uncovenanted Service pensioners who elect to draw their pensions in England, are paid at the rate of exchange annually fixed between the Treasury and the Secretary of State, except in a few cases in which pensions fixed in sterling have been specially granted. Excluding these special pensions, the total sum in rupees of uncovenanted pensions paid in England during 1885-6 was Rs. 9,20,000.

Mr. King asked the Postmaster-General whether the rate of postage to India and China from France, Belgium, and Germany, by British steamers subsidized by the British Government, was 2½d. per half-ounce, while the rate from England to the same countries for letters carried in the same British steamers was 5d. per half-ounce; whether the English Government received, under the International Postal Convention, a consideration for the carriage of letters to India and China in steamers subsidized with English money, the sum of 1½d. per half-ounce, and whether there was any loss on such carriage; and, if so, why the Government undertook to carry at a loss for foreign countries, while declining to reduce the double postage charged upon the people of the United Kingdom and India.

Mr. Raikes: My answer to the hon. member's first and second questions is in the affirmative. On the third point I may say that there is no loss on the carriage of these foreign letters to India and China, because the Post Office pays a fixed subsidy to the British contractors for carrying the India and China mails, and if we did not get the foreign letters even at the cheap rate of 1½d. each, our receipts would be so much the less and our yearly loss so much the greater.

ARRESTS continue to be made at St. Petersburg. The Women's College has been closed, and several officers have been executed.

THE Italian defeat at Massowah has produced great commotion in that country. There was first a ministerial crisis, which, however, soon passed away. It is now reported that General GENE, in command of the Italian forces at Massowah, has been recalled, and General SALETTA has been appointed to succeed him. General SALETTA represented the Italian Government at the Delhi Camp of Exercise.

POPE LEO XIII will commemorate his jubilee on his entrance on the fiftieth year of his pontificate towards the close of the year. The celebration will take the shape of an Exhibition of Catholic art and industry at the Vatican. Our Roman Catholic fellow-citizens of Calcutta lately held a meeting for considering measures for making their contributions towards the success of the Exhibition and otherwise marking their homage to the Holy See.

ROUMANIA has expressed her determination not to allow either Austria or Russia to cross her territory in any warlike movements that may take place in connection with the Bulgarian question.

THE earthquake that has just committed such havoc in the south of France and north Italy is said to have been predicted to an hour by Herr RUDOLPH FABL.

THE *Englishman* says that the Jubilee celebrations in England practically begin with the laying of the foundation-stone on the 23rd March of the new Law Courts at Birmingham by the Queen. The most noteworthy feature of the building will be a large public hall with stained glass windows containing representations of the principal events of Her Majesty's reign.

THE Imperial Institute has just received a handsome donation from the Duc D'Aumale, who has forwarded five-hundred pounds as a mark of his attachment to Queen VICTORIA.

THE Jubilee celebrations in England include a grand naval review to be held by Her Majesty at Portsmouth on the 21st July, to be followed by important evolutions for testing the port defences. There will be a grand manoeuvre of the Volunteers in the presence of the Queen before Buckingham Palace on 2nd July.

THE Jubilee demonstrations are by no means confined to Her Majesty's subjects proper. The Chinese in Singapore will put up a memorial statue of the Queen at the Singapore Government House at a cost of 3,000 dollars.

AT a meeting of the Central Committee for the London Imperial Institute held on Saturday last in the British Indian Association Rooms under the presidency of Mr. NOLAN, it was decided to issue a separate circular asking for subscriptions for the Institute. The subscribers to the Jubilee Fund will also be addressed by way of inquiry as to whether they would like any part of their subscription to be devoted to the Institute. Mr. NOLAN contradicted the fears expressed in some quarters of a collapse of the scheme, and assured the Committee that there was no danger of its failure if they took quiet action in the matter.

OUT of the subscriptions collected by the Madras Central Jubilee committee, amounting to Rs. 1,31,656, Rs. 53,843 has been voted for the London Imperial Institute. The Governor has congratulated the Presidency on the marked unanimity of counsel which has prevailed amongst the numerous district and town committees in the distribution of their separate Jubilee Funds on common objects.

THE celebration of the Jubilee at Pudocota has been deferred to the 20th June, on account of the mourning for the late Rajah's death. Prayers, however, were offered for the Queen on the 16th February in all the temples and mosques, and thousand copies of a history of the Empire distributed among the people. The Dewan-Regent has also subscribed Rs. 3,000 for the state and Rs. 500 for himself towards the London Institute as well as the Technical Institute of Madras.

COLONEL the Honourable JOHN COLBORNE, Cairo correspondent of the *Daily News*, has brought a charge against Mr. B. H. CLERE, editor of the *Times of Egypt*, of having libelled him in a violent and scurrilous pamphlet. The case is being tried by her Majesty's Consular Court at Cairo.

THE rice crop in Siam this year is reported to be a full one.

THE subscription to the Madras branch of Lady Dufferin's Fund stands now at Rs. 22,069, and that of the Mysore branch at Rs. 11,000 of which the Maharaja has given Rs. 7,500.

THE Countess of Dufferin returned to the capital from Darjeeling on Tuesday afternoon. She left again by the next day's night mail train to join His Excellency the Viceroy, after which Major COOPER will proceed to England via Bombay on six months' leave.

A WITNESS in a Court in Melbourne objected to take oath on the Bible which was offered to him for kissing, not on any religious grounds, but because the copy was so dirty from having been kissed by thousands of witnesses that he feared to catch some infectious disease. The objection was admitted, and a fresh copy was sent for on which the witness was duly sworn.

THE *Gazette of India* notifies the confirmation of the following appointments:—

Sir Stuart Bayley, as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal; Mr. C. H. T. Crosthwaite, Chief Commissioner of Burma; Mr. A. Mackenzie, Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces; and Mr. A. P. MacDonnell, Home Secretary.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY reached Allahabad from Bombay on the morning of the 18th March, and after staying with Sir ALFRED LYALL for two days, left on Sunday morning and reached Calcutta on Monday. He will be the guest of the Hon'ble Mr. EVANS until the departure of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON.

Mr. F. C. BARNES, Private Secretary to Sir RIVERS THOMPSON, becomes Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery in the place of Mr. RYLAND, whose term of office expires.

SIR LEPEL GRIFFIN's leave to England has been cancelled at his own request.

THE Nizam's Government has contributed £3,000 in aid of Dr. LEITNER'S Woking Institute.

MR. NEWBERRY, the Magistrate and Collector of Rungpore, has been permitted to resign the Civil Service. He intends to appeal to the Viceroy against the orders of the Bengal Government degrading him to the second class of Magistrates and Collectors on account of his action in the Rungpore deer case.

COLONEL WILKINSON has gone on furlough making over charge of the office of Deputy Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, to Mr. BARNARD, who will officiate till about the end of May when Mr. LAMBERT is expected back.

JUSTICE CUNNINGHAM started for home on the 21st instant. He has no intention, it is said, of returning.

THE Lieutenant-Governor unveiled the portrait of Babu KESHUB CHUNDER SEN at the Town Hall before a fairly large gathering of the deceased Brahmo leader's friends and admirers and the Calcutta public. Sir RIVERS bore high testimonies to the merits of KESHUB as an orator, a social reformer and a religious missionary. As a Christian, Sir RIVERS THOMPSON regarded KESHUB CHUNDER'S religious development as stopping short in its progress.

PHYSICS has been recommended to be substituted for Physical Geography and Mensuration in the Entrance Course.

QUETTA was *en fete* in honor of the arrival of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught. Their Royal Highnesses were to be the first passengers over the Bolan and Quetta line.

THE *Deccan Times* reports the capture of a well organized gang of robbers and dacoits who had been making their depredations in the Berar districts. They had a peculiar language of their own, or the thieves' grammar, known only to them. The credit of the capture belongs to Colonel GUNTORPE, assisted by Mr. PRIESTLEY and some of his other officers.

THE great increase of work thrown on the Rangoon Secretariat by the conquest of Upper Burma, is likely to lead to the creation of the new appointment of Chief Secretary. It is also reported that Upper and Lower Burma have been recommended by the Government of India to be constituted into a Lieutenant-Governorship.

A TROOP of Madras Lancers engaged and dispersed a band of Burman dacoits near Leghain, killing ten and capturing two. The report of the Chins having killed the great dacoit leader Boh Showay is believed in. Budha Yaza, another leader, has been captured by the Shans.

THE confederacy among the Shan chiefs has completely broken up. The head of the confederacy, the Tsawbwa of Meipon, has announced that they are all coming in to make their submission. Only the Tsawbwa of Tonsank holds out.

THE reports of the celebration of the Jubilee in all parts of the country are certainly calculated to gladden the hearts of all interested in the maintenance of British Power. What do they show? We give it the name of loyalty and, no doubt so far as a thorough appreciation of British Rule is a necessary ingredient of loyalty in the present connection, it is no misnomer. Yet all candid men must feel how it falls short of the perfect ideal. It is—it must be so. Geography itself is against it, to say nothing of history and ethnology. Loyalty at its best is a personal attachment. In the absence of opportunities for seeing, or at least feeling the near presence of, the sovereign, it is impossible to rouse such a sentiment. This difficulty in the way of Indian loyalty can be minimised by the Indians more largely restoring to England on the one hand and English princes and connections of the royal family more frequently coming to India on the other. Towards the same end, literature and art should disseminate among the people information respecting the sovereign. Above all, it is necessary that every subject of the empire should, if possible, be as familiar with her features as of a mother. Every household ought to be provided with a portrait of Her Majesty. The Great Eastern Hotel Company now offer us an opportunity for providing ourselves each with a likeness of the Queen-Empress. It is a fine life-like likeness, well mounted, in fact brilliantly bordered, and, altogether, a desirable ornament for any drawing-room table or mantel or Boitukkhana corner. And all, for the incredible price of one Rupee!

SPECULATION is rife as to the successor of Dr. HUNTER in the Vice-Chancellorship of the Calcutta University, made vacant by his departure from this country on furlough. The Hon'ble Mr. SCOBLE, the Hon. Mr. PEILE, and Dr. RAJENDRALALA MITRA are said to be in the running. Our countryman before all others! we can loudly cry, with equal justice and patriotism. Dr. RAJENDRALALA'S eminent scholarship, his great literary ability, and his lifelong experience in education eminently entitle him to the honor. His claims have been too long ignored.

PUNCTUAL to the latest announcement on the subject, the Budget Statement made its appearance this morning. The Estimates of Receipts and Expenditure fairly balance each other, leaving a slight surplus of £16,700. This result is attained by no additional taxation, but mainly, as we had anticipated, through the revision of the Provincial Contracts. A deficit has been avoided by the suspension of the annual Famine Insurance grant, without a suspension, however, of the usual expenditure incurred for purposes of famine protection, which will only be debited to loan instead of to Revenue. An elaborate explanation is given by Sir A. COLVIN of the grounds which have led him to adopt this course, which is shown to be merely a question of account.

It is announced that a loan of 200 lakhs will be placed on the market. It has also been decided to raise no sterling loans for public works during the year. The Government will be greatly assisted in meeting its various demands by the circumstance that three and a half crores of the late Maharajah of Gwalior's hoarded treasure will be invested in Government securities during the year.

"SWEET is pleasure after pain," and *vice versa*. The Jubilee over, the day of reckoning is come. The Magistrate having called the Commissioners of the Ranaghat Municipality to explain under what section of the Municipal Act they had voted a sum from the municipal fund for celebrating the Jubilee, they have adopted the following reply:—

"Resolved that the magistrate be informed in reply that, in common with the other subjects of her most Gracious Majesty, the commissioners were anxious to manifest their loyalty to the throne on that auspicious and memorable occasion, and that without any reference to the sections of the law for authorisation, they sanctioned the Jubilee expenditure on the strength of similar actions on the part of the Calcutta and other bigger municipalities. In the event of any legal or technical hitch arising in reference to this loyal action of the commissioners, they would humbly ask the magistrate to request Government to remove it by legislative action or otherwise."

The resolution shows their loyalty, and saves their pocket at the same time. We object, however, to these invasions of the municipal fund

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—Notable Facts.—Intense heat augments the annoyances of skin disease and encourages the development of febrile disorders; therefore they should, as they can be, removed by these detergent and purifying preparations. In stomach complaints, liver affections, pains and spasms of the bowels, Holloway's unguent well rubbed over the affected part immediately gives the greatest ease, prevents congestion and inflammation, checks the threatening diarrhoea, and averts incipient cholera. The poorer inhabitants of large cities will find these remedies to be their best friend when any pestilence rages, or when from unknown causes eruptions, boils, abscesses, of ulcerations point out the presence of taints or impurities within the system, and call for instant and effective curative medicines.

for purposes foreign to municipal improvement. It will be very unwise to change the law in the way suggested. There will then be no end of these drains. They will not know where to stop. The action of the District Magistrate and of the Presidency Commissioner, who is reported to be also opposed to these Jubilee grants, has our entire approval.

GREAT preparations are going on for the visit of Cooch Behar to England. It is a ruinous game. The finances of the State are bad enough, and now this exodus will give them the finishing touch. Nor is the pecuniary waste the only or the worst sacrifice involved. European education and society have been lavished upon His Highness with the result that, divorced from his proper duties, he lives for the self-despising Europeans who fawn on, or have made a plaything of, him. And now to the simple people of his State this contemplated mission looks like a kidnapping. It is hopeless to cry when great men are parties to the game. A word from Sir STEUART BAYLEY may perhaps yet arrest a great scandal.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY is already receiving *Pooja*. He is up and doing too. He has in a quiet way sent to the Bengal office for information on the Hills question. The question will soon come to the front in England and he wishes to be prepared. We believe he will himself deal with it in a practical and honest way. So far as Bengal is concerned, we expect he will knock the baleful "Exodus" on the head. He will show that it is possible to govern Bengal, as it was acquired, in the plains.

BURDWAN is as unhappy as ever. The Raj has now apparently got into the hands of a Raj Mistree rather than Raj Mantree. The present European Manager is represented to be a bear and his reported doings bear out the view. Whatever the late Mr. MILLER may or may not have been, he was a thorough gentleman and a man of culture—just the kind of officer to give dignity to the Raj and to be honored of it. His successor had been a rural manager who has been brought out of the jungles of Malda to be placed at the head of a great and ancient Raj. Carrying the manners and practices of the jungles, he is exhibiting the thorough spectacle of a little man dressed in brief authority. He has of course already contrived to make the servants of the Raj, from Lala BUN BEHARI KAPOOR down to the grooms and gardeners, miserable and to alarm the family and the people.

MAGISTRATE WESTMACOTT of Howrah and the District Superintendent of Police are a brace of wise men in their generation. Between them, they concocted a surprise for Sir STEUART BAYLEY on Monday morning. Driving from the Howrah station he was saluted by a guard of honor of the whole local Police force. This, in Bengali phrase, is—to gather a whole heap of fruit before climbing the tree. These ingenious gentlemen will, doubtless, be remembered.

A STATEMENT in the papers this week recording the death at Dehra of Mr. ANDREW HEARSEY had caused us great anxiety about the fate of a valued fellow-labourer in the public cause. We feared it was Captain ANDREW HEARSEY, the more so as we had received a note on Thursday from Mrs. HEARSEY saying that her husband had been ailing some days. We made some inquiries in town, but could get no satisfactory information, though every body said it must be the Captain that was dead. We therefore telegraphed to Mrs. HEARSEY and were glad to receive the following telegram from Captain HEARSEY himself:—

"Mr. Andrew Hearsey mentioned in the *Pioneer* is the son of the late Captain William Moorcraft Hearsey of Kerriele near Bareilly, Rohildund, and brother of Mr. Lionel Hearsey, Talooqdar of Kheraf, Oudh."

We publish the above information for the benefit of the Captain's numerous friends, many of whom had doubtless been equally deceived with ourselves. Long may Captain HEARSEY live to serve both England and India.

POOR Nawab KULB ALI KHAN of Rampore has at last shuffled off his mortal coil. He died on Wednesday last. He had been suffering for a long series of years. Of late, there came a delusive suffering for the better. Some symptoms of alleviation were magnified by his parasites into actual recovery and, careful as he was of his cash, he was induced to spend liberally in thanksgiving. We believe there came a relapse and he succumbed under the struggle.

He was a fine specimen of an Indian Prince. One of the most handsome men, with a stately handsomeness befitting a throne, he was learned as a Moulvi. He was attentive to business, for which he showed some aptitude.



## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1887.

### A PERSECUTED GOVERNOR.

SIR JOHN POPE HENNESSY, Governor of Mauritius, has been the victim of a cruel fate. A model ruler, of a lofty sense of rectitude, of broad liberal sympathies, humane and just, and, above all, impartial in the exercise of power without distinction of race, creed or colour, Sir JOHN's administration of the colony brought happiness and prosperity to all classes of subjects. When he took charge of the Government, abuses of the worst kind prevailed in almost every department of the administration. The treatment of emigrants on board the vessels which brought them to the island, was cruel in the extreme. The emigrants were chiefly from India, and we have therefore a special reason to be thankful to Sir JOHN HENNESSY for his endeavours for the amelioration of their lot. There was over-crowding in the ships; the food given was at once unwholesome and insufficient, there was no protection from heat or cold, and provision for medical treatment existed but in name. That the result should be an abnormally high rate of sickness and mortality, was only to be expected. Sir JOHN was not a man to tolerate a system so fraught with human misery, and in the long run so injurious to the true interests of the colony itself. He soon made a clean sweep of the horrors and gave life on board the emigrant vessels more comfort and security. Nor were their sufferings during the voyage all the hard lot of the poor exiles. Arrived in the island, those that survived the hardships of the passage, found themselves placed under tyrannical masters, and tyrannical laws. The severity of the laws was aggravated by the severity of prison discipline, and the mismanagement of prison hospitals. The forest laws operated with special hardship on the poorer classes. Their provisions were so minute that no one could escape from being involved in their meshes. For the lightest offences under those laws, if offences at all, such as breaking a twig for a toothpick, the cat-o'-nine-tails was called in requisition. Flogging was also copiously resorted to for minor offences under the prison discipline, while, for crimes of a slightly graver complexion under the penal statutes, sentences of extreme severity were passed without the slightest compunction. Indeed, the courts of justice were terrible engines of oppression. Nor was corruption unknown in the administration of justice. Most invidious distinctions were made between the natives and the English colonists. Many and repeated were the complaints urged by the people against these abuses and rigors. But the Colonist element preponderated in the Legislature. Appeals to the home authorities were equally ineffectual. The people were consequently in a state of sullen discontent. Their rights, even where secured by the law, were trampled upon. They were excluded from all appointments of emolument and honor. The Legislative Chamber was merely in name open to them. The law recognised Roman Catholicism as the established religion of the colony, but in practice it was placed under the gravest disabilities.

Such, in brief, was the state of the island when it passed under the rule of Sir JOHN POPE HENNESSY. And what is its condition now? One by one Sir JOHN purged the administration of its abuses and corruptions. Justice was placed on an equal basis. The

forest laws were informed. The inhumanity of courts of Justice as well as of prison discipline soon became a thing of the past. The distribution of patronage was governed by equitable principles. The Civil Service was thrown open to public competition, and to crown all, the Legislature was constituted of representatives elected by all classes of the people. The effects of Sir JOHN's reforms soon showed themselves, not only in the contentment and increased attachment of the people, but in increased prosperity of trades, commerce and manufacture. The leniency of his judicial and prison administration, was followed by a marked decrease of crime, and altogether Mauritius took rank among the best governed and most flourishing of her Majesty's foreign territories.

But this career of onward civilization has been suddenly arrested. An exemplary ruler has been suddenly disgraced, without a hearing, nay, so much as a warning. A Royal Commission of enquiry was granted by the Colonial Office, apparently at the suggestion of Sir JOHN's professed enemies. Certainly, there had been nothing the matter in the Colony to call for such a serious exercise of Prerogative as was resorted to in hot haste, without much deliberation. Mr. CLIFFORD LLOYD had, indeed, gone home on purpose to create mischief after his wont, but though he certainly aired all the calumnies of the malcontents of Mauritius, that restless spirit was the last person whose *ipse dixit* ought to have carried any weight, specially when his own ambitious views were scarcely concealed. Yet, on this *ex parte* representation, was a Colonial Governor of tried services and high character persecuted. Sir HERCULES ROBINSON, another wellknown antagonist of Sir JOHN, was appointed Commissioner, who, 'after some weeks' coquetting with the Inquiry, suddenly discloses his hand by suspending the Governor—by virtue of a secret commission with which he had been provided. We speak deliberately, and from a careful examination of official papers and authentic records, when we say that the annals of British administration does not contain such a case of persecution of a public servant. Sir JOHN is, we take it, a victim to an intrigue and to the Tory reaction in the Colonial office.

### THE DEER CASE AND THE DEAR RESOLUTION.

THE Rungpore deer case has elicited some warm discussion in the press. But the importing of the race question into the discussion was perfectly needless. It would seem as if no subject can be considered in these days on its merits and kept from sliding into a bitter race controversy. Mr. NEWBERRY's lot is, indeed, one calculated to enlist sympathy. He is on the eve of his retirement, after a long service, and that circumstance, apart from the merits of the question, cannot but appeal to the softer feelings of the public. Any humiliation to a man at such a time, must come with a special severity. So far as the Anglo-Indian press has been moved by this special aspect of the case, its conduct has been only human. If our native contemporaries have not been able to feel and express the same degree of sympathy, it is probably owing to their being more than ever impressed with the other side of the question. And, in truth, if there are special circumstances calling for the exercise of sympathy towards the Magistrate of Rungpore, are there not far stronger reasons for feeling sympathy for the victims of Magisterial animosity, or heedlessness, as the case may be? Here is a



case, Captain Hearsey is left by wealthy natives to beggar himself in fighting their battles, and those of their poorer and more helpless brethren, they must not be surprised, if on future occasions no disinterested European is forthcoming to champion their cause.

A. BANON.

Kulu, Kangra, March 13.

SIR,—You have laid the Hindu assistants of the office of the Accountant-General, Bengal, in the very deepest obligation by bringing to light some of the abuses in that office.

Allow me to point out most prominently the danger of allowing Mr. H. Black, Superintendent of the Pre Audit Department, to continue any further in the public service. His swollen ears, nose and ulcerated fingers constantly spreading the dangerous infection of leprosy, can be ascertained by any one paying a visit to the Treasury Building. Has the standing order of the Government, by which persons afflicted with incurable and contagious diseases are to be removed from the public service, become a dead letter?

I would not take up any more of your valuable space but earnestly beseech you to give publicity in an early issue of your inestimable journal to the fact of the incurably leprosy Eurasian getting Rs. 240 a month in such a public office, within a stone's throw of the Government House and the office of the Sanitary Commissioners for Bengal and India. Mr. Black's health does not permit him to work properly.

AN ALARMED HINDU.

23rd March.

TO THE EDITOR, *Indian Daily News*.

SIR,—Your animadversions upon the general character of Indian Municipalities are usually sweeping, and if they are based on no better information than you seemed to possess when referring to our municipality of Chandernagore in your issue of the 16th, I must say they are generally very unjust. To say that "a certain officer of the Republic" in this city was burnt in effigy the other day, because he has become "unpopular" is to express the very reverse of what is the truth. The burning in effigy of the Mayor of Chandernagore was the doing not of any important section of its people, but of a few individuals who have good reason to bear a spite against that officer on account of the fealty to law and love of fairplay shown by him in connection with certain well-known lottery ventures started here last year. Indeed, one of the mottoes mentioned by you as decorating the person of the effigy, namely, "Beaver's Help" showed the place of animus but too clearly, and makes it no difficulty here to lay one's finger upon the perpetrators of the dastardly midnight outrage. As a matter of fact, neither the Mayor nor anybody else did anything to help the *Beaver*, which was helped by its own pluck and good luck. However, "helping" the *Beaver*, any more than the "License tax" or the "House tax," (both imposed by the Supreme Government), has nothing to do with the business of the Municipality, so the public will understand that if our present worthy Mayor has become at all "unpopular" with any section in the city, he has become so not on account of any municipal scandals, but for purely adventitious and largely personal reasons. Let me here correct your information also in that the effigy was not placed in the municipal office, but was left at the door during dark. The fact that the committers of the outrage could not hit upon a motto bearing directly upon the work of the Municipality, in spite of all their malice against its head, should speak volumes in favor of that corporation; while the other fact that no one can be found to confess openly to the deed, or even express anything but disgust over it, shows but too well that no important, not to say respectable, section of the people of Chandernagore were at the bottom of the affair, but a handful of persons who love to do deeds that are dark in ways that are stealthy. Neither the municipality nor the Mayor is likely to suffer much from such attacks by men who dare not face the light of day or come out openly with the word of their conviction.

As for our municipality of Chandernagore, it has already given us much satisfaction as may properly be expected from a young institution built by human hand, and not a little of its success is due to the intelligent public spirit and self-denying labours of our present able and worthy Mayor Babu Pran Kristo Chowdhry. I hope that in justice to both Mayor and Corporation, as well as to the people generally of Chandernagore, you will kindly give this a corner in an early issue.

CITIZEN.

#### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 15th March 1887.—Baboo Monmohun Chakravarti, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cuttack, is transferred to Pooree, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Baboo Rashi Behary Naik, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore, is transferred to Cuttack, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

The 16th March 1887.—Mr. F. H. Harding, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy-Collector, Chittagong, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of that district, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. F. W. R. Cowley, or until further orders.

The 17th March 1887.—Mr. R. F. Rampini, District and Sessions Judge, Burdwan, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of District and Sessions Judges, with effect from the 11th instant, *vice* Mr. W. H. Verner, on furlough.

Mr. A. Manson, Magistrate and Collector, Chittagong, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 7th instant, *vice* Mr. J. Boxwell, on deputation.

Mr. R. Cornish, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Midnapore, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 7th instant, *vice* Mr. A. Manson.

Mr. F. H. B. Skrine, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Beerbhoom, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 14th instant, *vice* Mr. W. Fiddian, on furlough.

Mr. F. R. S. Collier, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Magistrate and Collector of Rungpore.

The 18th March 1887.—Mr. H. Holmwood, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mozufferpore, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of the 24-Pergunnahs.

Mr. E. W. Collin, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Mozufferpore.

Moulvi Syed Obedullah, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is allowed leave for three months, under section 128, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 24th August 1886.

Mr. W. M. Clay, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of the first grade, is confirmed in that grade, with effect from the 1st instant, *vice* Mr. H. J. Newbery.

Mr. H. R. Reily, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on deputation as Joint-Manager of the Burdwan Estate, is allowed leave for one month, under section 72, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

The 19th March 1887.—Mr. G. A. Grierson, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on special duty, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Gya, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. J. Boxwell, or until further orders.

Baboo Ram Sadan Bhattacharjee, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is transferred to Manbhoom, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

The 22nd March 1887.—Mr. F. E. Piffard, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jamtara, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is allowed leave for six months, under section 16, chapter 11 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 7th April 1887.

Mr. P. Nolan, Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General, Revenue, and Statistical Departments, is confirmed in that appointment, with effect from the date on which Mr. A. P. MacDonnell, M.A., C.S., is confirmed as Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department.

Mr. F. H. Barrow, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Furrêdpore, is appointed to be a Magistrate and Collector of the third grade, *vice* Mr. P. Nolan, but will continue to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Mr. A. W. Mackie, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on furlough, is promoted to the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Mr. F. H. Barrow.

Mr. J. G. Ritchie, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serampore, Hooghly, is appointed to be a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the second grade, *vice* Mr. A. W. Mackie, but will continue to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors.

Mr. J. C. Veasey, Magistrate and Collector, Beerbhoom, is promoted to the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 1st proximo, *vice* Mr. H. J. Newbery, but will continue to act, until further orders, as Inspector-General of Police.

Mr. J. A. Bourdillon, Inspector-General of Registration, is appointed to be a Magistrate and Collector of the third grade, with effect from the 1st proximo, *vice* Mr. J. C. Veasey, and to act in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors, until further orders.

Mr. Bourdillon is also appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector, of Sarun, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. W. H. D'Oyly, or until further orders.

Mr. W. D. Blyth, First Inspector of Registration Offices, is appointed to be Inspector-General of Registration, with effect from the 1st proximo, *vice* Mr. J. A. Bourdillon.

JUDICIAL.—The 17th March 1887.—In modification of the orders of the 10th ultimo, Baboo Uma Churn Gangooly, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Khoorna, is vested with powers under sections 110, 133, and 524 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The 18th March 1887.—Baboo Rakhal Chunder Bose, Officiating First Subordinate Judge, Chittagong, is appointed to act as Judge of the Courts of Small Causes, Dacca and Munshigunge, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Mohendro Nath Mitter, or until further orders.

The 19 March 1887.—Baboo Ram Sadan Bhattacharjee, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manbhoom, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class.

Mr. Raj Kissen Sen (Barrister-at-Law), Registrar and Chief Ministerial Officer, Small Cause Court, Calcutta, is allowed leave for two months, under section 73a2 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st April next, or from such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. Abul Hassan, Barrister-at-Law, is appointed to act as Registrar and Chief Ministerial Officer, Small Cause Court, Calcutta, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. Raj Kissen Sen, or until further orders.

Mr. Abul Hassan is vested, under section 14 of Act XV of 1882 (the Presidency Small Cause Courts Act), with the powers of a Judge for the trial of suits in which the amount or value of the subject-matter does not exceed Rs. 20.

The 22nd March 1887.—Baboo Mohendro Nath Mitter, Judge of the Courts of Small Causes, Dacca and Munshigunge, is allowed leave for one month and a half, under section 73-1 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 19th proximo.

Baboo Mohendro Nath Mitter, Munsif of Nattore, in Rajshahye, is promoted to the first grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 1st February 1887, *vice* Baboo Ram Yad Lall, retired.

Baboo Juggodishwar Gupta, Munsif of Bagirhat, in Jessore, is promoted to the second grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 1st February 1887, *vice* Baboo Mohendro Nath Mitter.

Baboo Kedareswar Moitra, Munsif of Bhola, in Backergunge, is promoted to the third grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 1st February 1887, *vice* Baboo Juggodishwar Gupta.

Baboo Satya Churn Gangooly, Officiating Munsif of Jamalpore, in Mymensingh, is appointed to be a Munsif of the fourth grade, with effect from the 1st February 1887, *vice* Baboo Kedareswar Moitra, and to be a Munsif in the district of Rungpore, to be ordinarily stationed at Kurigram, but will continue to act, until further orders, in his present appointment.

GRANT OF LEAVE TO MUNSIFS.—The 16 March 1887.—Baboo Nibarun Chunder Banerjee, Second Munsif of Netrokona, in the district of Mymensingh, is allowed leave for three months, viz., six days under section 73, rule 3, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code and the remaining two months and twenty-four days under section 73, rule 1 of the same Code, with effect from the afternoon of the 14th January 1886, in supersession of the leave granted to him on the 14th December 1885.

## Official Paper.

MAURITIUS.—RESPECTING THE ORIGIN OF THE COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY, AND ASKING FOR A COPY OF A TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN DOWNING STREET FROM MR. CLIFFORD LLOYD.

SIR JOHN POPE HENNESSY, K.C.M.G., TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE  
EDWARD STANHOPE, M.P.

Mauritius, 27th, December 1886.

The public notification issued by Sir Hercules Robinson on the 12th of November (two days after the enquiry commenced) and his letters that I transmitted to you in my despatch of the 18th of December show that his proceedings in Mauritius were controlled and cut short by his engagements in South Africa.

2. The notification that he sent to the newspapers on the 12th of November says :—

"Sir Hercules Robinson will be obliged to leave for the Cape about the 6th proximo."

3. He begins his letter of the 2nd of December by saying :— "Captain Wilson is anxious to know what day I can start." In his letter of the 10th of December he is "much disappointed," as he had hoped he "should have been able to get away before this." And in his letter of the 13th December, in which he explains that he suspended me "on general grounds which would not be affected by your defence," he adds :— "I have told Captain Wilson, I mean to leave this on Saturday for the Cape where my presence is required."

4. Captain Wilson was the Captain of the Flagship on the African Station. Apart from some troubles in the Transkei provinces, of which he had heard after the enquiry in Mauritius commenced, Sir Hercules Robinson had promised the Admiral that H.M.S. *Raleigh* would not be detained at Mauritius beyond a certain date.

5. Hence the overruling necessity of crushing out the defence, of not allowing any re-examination or cross-examination of witnesses and of precipitating a decision.

6. The most important consequence of this hasty act, is described in the Mauritian newspapers I enclose : "Le Cernéen," "The Merchants and Planters Gazette," "Le Journal de Maurice," "La Sentinelle de Maurice," "Le Vrai Mauricien," and "Le Drapeau."

These various and independent organs of public opinion concur in stating that Sir Hercules Robinson's proceedings have done more to alienate the Mauritian population from England than anything that has occurred since the conquest of the Island. I say nothing now as to how Her Majesty's Government should face that unhappy result and remedy it.

7. Two other consequences followed on Sir Hercules Robinson's proceedings,—one its effect upon me personally, and the other its effect in preventing an exposé of the real origin of the enquiry. It is only as regards the latter point I venture to address you now.

8. What caused the Enquiry? That question has been repeatedly asked in Mauritius, and it seems to have been asked also in England. The serious statements made upon oath by Sir Virgile Naz, Mr. Thomy Pitot and other witnesses show that Mr. Clifford Lloyd's appointment was the proximate cause.

9. When the news of that appointment first reached Mauritius, Mr. Thomy Pitot wrote to the Secretary of State pointing out that Mr. Lloyd's antecedents indicated that he would be hostile to the Mauritians. Extracts from the "Journal des Débats" and other Parisian newspapers were quoted to the same effect in the Mauritian press.

10. The following quotation from a statement made in the House of Commons by the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs was republished as showing the circumstances under which Mr. Lloyd had left his previous appointment :—

"Lord Edmund Fitz Maurice said :—Mr. Clifford Lloyd left Egypt owing to certain painful differences of opinion between him and various high officials both English and Egyptian."

11. From the enclosed evidence of Sir Virgile Naz it will be seen that, in reply to a question from Sir Hercules Robinson as to whether he had a conversation with Mr. Clifford Lloyd that led him to doubt the loyalty of Mr. Lloyd to the Governor, Sir Virgile Naz states that Mr. Lloyd sent for him to try and get me to take leave of absence, threatening complaints and memorials if I did not do so. He also spoke of the hostile feeling in the Colonial Office in London towards me. This was the first time Sir Virgile Naz heard that an adverse memorial was being prepared.

12. Sir Virgile Naz also describes how Mr. Lloyd spoke of his own pecuniary position and the necessity he was under of getting the half salary of the Governor; and that he was displeased at finding the Governor here, when he had expected to be acting Governor.

13. The same witness traced the alliance between Mr. Lloyd and the memorialists, he described their parallel action against me and swore that Mr. Lloyd acted in unison with them.

14. This was one of the points on which I wished to have Mr. Antelme and another of the memorialists re-examined. The re-examination or cross-examination of Mr. Antelme would have exposed his political relations with Mr. Lloyd. It would have laid bare the origin of the first memorial and explained how the second memorial was stimulated. It would also have brought to light certain communications between Mr. Lloyd and officials in London.

15. As regards the latter, Mr. Clifford Lloyd's absence prevented me from having him examined respecting that which well informed persons regard as the determining cause of the Inquiry.

16. Before the Commissioner's arrival Sir Virgile Naz asked me if I knew anything of a cypher telegram sent to you respecting me by Mr. Clifford Lloyd or Mr. Antelme. I replied in the negative, saying that you would have sent me a copy if such a telegram existed.

17. After the Commissioner's arrival, Mr. Leclezio, the member for Moka, spoke to me on the subject. He said he had reason to believe that a telegram had been sent to you towards the end of August conveying a very serious statement about me; that the statement was absolutely false, but that it was the main cause of the inquiry and that the telegram had been accordingly sent by you to Sir Hercules Robinson.

18. As the story was confirmed in another quarter, I asked the despatch clerk if Mr. Lloyd has made use of the official code to send a message to Downing Street. He said something of the kind must have happened as Mr. Lloyd had sent for the Code book (he was then not attending the office) and that afterwards an account was sent in for a telegram: that a few days before Mr. Lloyd left Mauritius he called for the Minute paper, which had been duly registered, containing the account, that it was cancelled and destroyed by his directions and the cost of the telegram paid for by him. On then calling for the Register Book I found that the Minute Paper in question though no longer in existence had been duly registered. The Register précis referred to a telegram from Mr. Clifford Lloyd to "Chapelries London," that being the Code phrase for "The Secretary of State for the Colonies;" but the Register Book made no further reference to the contents of the telegram.

19. When I accepted a Colonial Governorship in 1866, I was aware from my previous avocations, that certain Regulations were in force by which a Governor is protected from unanswered accusations. Those regulations are still in existence. They are to be found in Section 6, Chapter VII of the Rules of the Colonial Service, and in accordance with them I beg leave to ask you for a copy of the telegram in question.

BUMJEE NUNJIO, one of a party of Buddhist priests who had been to Oxford to learn Sanskrit and who is now Professor of Sanskrit at Tokio, intends to visit India and remain a year for studying the sacred places of Buddhism and collecting manuscripts.

OUT of 93 candidates at the late B. L. examination of the Madras University, only 16 have passed, of whom no one is placed in the first division.

IT is proposed to close the Gunpowder Factory at Madras, pending the sanction of the Secretary of State.

THE reductions in the Public Works Department in Madras, recommended by the Finance Committee, will be brought into effect from the next month. There will be a saving of about eight lacs of rupees.

THE Madras Board of Revenue will be reorganised from the 1st proximo. The three members with one secretary, a sub-secretary, and a sheristadar of whom it now consists, will be replaced by four commissioners, two for land revenue with two secretaries, a third for separate revenue with one secretary, and the fourth for agriculture and settlement with the present sheristadar as secretary.

THE Madras Government has issued orders in regard to the establishments which are to accompany the Government to Ootacamund. The number of assistants and clerks fixed, is considerably less than the old number. The hill allowances of the ministerial establishment have also been reduced.

THE *Madras Mail* says that the financial situation of the Franco-Indian colonies is unsatisfactory, that a crisis has only been averted by a retrenchment of the salaries of the highest functionaries. These salaries which were already small enough, have been reduced by 20 to 30 per cent. in a large number of cases. In British India, the salaries of the highest officials are sacred, although they are the fattest salaries in the world.

THE Mysore Cotton Mills belonging to the Maharajah, narrowly escaped destruction by a fire which broke out on the night of the 17th instant, and which was put out before it could reach the Mill building. It first attacked a wooden structure where cotton waste was stored. About three thousand rupees worth of cotton waste was burnt down.

THE goods train from Mysore was derailed on Friday the 18th instant. The boiler burst, killing the driver, two firemen, and a butcher who were on the engine. The Way Inspector jumped off and saved himself.

THE fears of a serious deficit in the Opium Revenue seem to have been ill founded. It is not likely to exceed a lac of rupees or thereabouts.

THE Sonapore-Hajipore section of the Assam-Bihar State Railway including the Gunduk bridge, will be opened by the Viceroy on the 30th instant.

THERE will be no meeting, as at first proposed, of the Legislative Council at Delhi over the Punjab Land Bill. Notwithstanding close and continuous application on the part of the Select Committee, the settlement of its provisions has not been sufficiently advanced to enable its being passed at an early meeting. The Select Committee do not accept the radical changes of system proposed by Sir CHARLES ARCHISON.

KEEN disappointment must have been felt by the Maharajah of Durbhunga for his inability from illness to join the Viceregal sporting party.

THE Public Service Commission having been dissolved, Mr. F. B. PEACOCK has resumed charge of his office as Chief Secretary to the Bengal Government, Mr. MACAULAY reverting to his duties as Financial Secretary.

SOME evidence has recently been given before the Sub-Committee of the Public Service Commission on the subject of recruitment and pro-

motion for the Police service. The evidence is contradictory, witnesses being divided as to the necessity of educational tests for appointment in the police service, the whole efficiency of a police officer being said to depend on the possession of common sense and tact. The prevalence of corruption was, however, admitted, though it was alleged to be on the decrease.

We are disposed to agree with the views of Babu BROJONATH CHATTERJEE, Inspector of Police, Calcutta, who strongly advocated the institution of qualifying examinations for appointment.

THE Holi festival at Bombay was celebrated by enlightened Young Bombay in a novel way. They got up a Hindoo Fancy Dress Ball, which, notwithstanding their inexperience, is said to have been a fair success. At any rate, it was a relief to the weaker nerves that could not stand the red powder and boisterous mirth.

ENCOURAGED by some recent decisions of the Judge of the Howrah Small Cause Court against defaulting subscribers, the Chairman of the Howrah municipality lately sued one RAM CHUNDER MITTER for his subscription of Rs. 100 towards the Town Hall Fund. The signature of the subscriber was proved, but the Judge dismissed the suit, on the ground that the law was in favour of the defendant. At the time the subscription was made, the defendant was depending on the earnings of his son, who was now dead, and his circumstances have since materially changed for the worse.

THERE is a new turn of affairs in Cashmere again. An up-country paper states:—

"A fortnight or ten days ago, on some papers being brought to him as usual to sign, His Highness is said to have given a flat refusal, declaring in effect that he was being treated as a child, and would be so no more. He then apparently addressed the Resident by letter, demanding a new Council and a change generally in the present system of government; while by other accounts, it would appear that the position he has taken up, on communicating with the Resident, is that he will refer his complaints only to the Viceroy. There is a stop consequently to business, and the position of parties therefore seems to be that the Resident and Dewan are ranged on one side *versus* the Maharaja and the State officials generally on the other."

WE read in the *Englishman*:—

"The more ignorant natives of this country regard the Post Office as so miraculous an agency that the letter boxes are worshipped in some out-of-the-way places. In one instance a man on posting his letter in the box shouted out its destination to inform the presiding spirit, whom he supposed to be inside. Another native took off his shoes as he approached the box, went through various devotions before and after posting his letter, and finally placed some coppers before the box as a propitiatory offering, retiring in the same attitude of humility."

That is, we are a worshipful people, ready to give and take—devotion. Woe to those who cannot give to take!

## Editorial Notes.

M. EDOURD HERVE, the well known Editor of *Le Soleil*, has been elected a member of the French Academy. In the discourse which he delivered on the occasion of his admission among the celebrated *Forty*, occurs the following passage:—

"In admitting among you a modest journalist, you have done him the most enviable honour. He is overwhelmed with it and would have been still more so, had he not known that this honour has been accorded not to him but the Press of which he is one of the representatives. Indeed, the French Academy, whatever its detractors may say, has willingly accepted and consecrated the new forms, which embody in every age the activity of its spirits. Under the Restoration, when eloquence took the first rank among the forces which regulated the public opinion, your doors were opened to the political orators. Later on, when the Press became a power, your suffrages went to seek in the person of the most brilliant writer the journal of the governing classes. Now you have admitted into your august Assembly the popular journal of the day. We live in a time in which all things change and with the rest, the Press itself. To defend our ideas, we can no longer content ourselves to develop them within the limited circle of our readers. We must descend to the people, mix ourselves with the multitude and speak to all a language which they can understand."

IN the peroration of his discourse on M. HERVE, M. MAXIME said:—

"The exercise of liberty consists less in making our ideas triumph than in respecting those of others. This is a grand principle on which we must take our firm stand and from which we should never deviate. Without it, all the moral conquests of the French Revolution are vain and make us doubt of their vitality. Its loss will be a great disaster to civilization itself."

IN welcoming to Verdan General SALANSON, an officer of merit, who was entrusted with the defence of that important place by his country, the local Bishop is reported to have spoken as follows :—

"The future is a secret that is in the hand of God. Should, however, the redoubtable eventualities with which the world is at this moment preoccupied, come to pass, the clergy of Verdan will be found faithful and valiant at their post of duties. They will show again as they had shown before in the siege of 1870, how the moral and religious influences can be useful to the other form of heroism which displays itself in the field of battle. They will exhibit once more the happy *rapprochement* of the priest and the soldier for the defence of their common mother—*la Patrie*."

THE man who is looked upon in Russia as the veritable occult potentate, who makes and unmakes ministers, is M. KATKOFF, the editor of the *Gazette de Moscou*. A man of rare talents and vast information, he exercises great influence, which is felt even in the Emperor's own Council. A conservative of the old school, he strives to maintain the old institutions of his country, and daily combats the liberalism, the constitutional theories and judicial reforms of ALEXANDER III. His paper enjoys a wide circulation, in spite of its antique style and spirit. His opposition, far from drawing down upon him the wrath of the Emperor, has procured for him the Cross of Saint Vladimir, a unique example of a decoration bestowed on a journalist. When recently the Russian press was interdicted to pursue its hostile criticism on Germany, the *Gazette de Moscou* was the only journal to which the "communiqué" was not sent, so that it was left quite free to continue its anti-German campaign. Nothing could better demonstrate the great power this journalist wields in Russia.

A *modus vivendi* between Liberal Unionists and Gladstonians is the subject of speculation in English political circles. Speaking at Birmingham, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said that the points of difference were so few and of such minor importance, that he was surprised that an agreement had not yet been effected between the two parties. Everything, he added, rested with Mr. GLADSTONE, and the longer the separation continued, the wider would be the breach. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN expressed an earnest hope that the Government would see their way to arrive at a final settlement of the land question which should be introduced along with their Crimes Bill. Mr. GLADSTONE, in a speech delivered by him at a Liberal banquet, echoed Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S desire for reconciliation. While adhering to his main proposals regarding Ireland, he hoped an agreement was still possible by a modification or improvement of those proposals, especially in reference to the land purchase scheme. Mr. GLADSTONE was against hurrying the Home Rule question, although he believed the nation would gradually come to accept that solution.

IT is now given out that the Government of India are willing to continue to the Bombay-Burma Trading Company their leases of those forests in Upper Burma which they had been working in ex-king THEEBAW'S time. Willing, indeed! Could they help it? Can they in decency refuse the Company? It is for the Company that THEEBAW has come to grief. Upper Burma is as much a conquest of the B. B. T. Company as of the British Government. It is to maintain their ill-gotten privileges as well as to screen them from the consequences of their malpractices, that the war was undertaken. And now to talk at this late hour of Government being willing to continue their contracts with the king, as an exceptional indulgence!

THE municipal commissioners of Ranaghat are a self-respecting body. It will be remembered how they saved their rights to the municipal office building from official invasion. The officials, however, have not forgotten their grudge. At any rate, some correspondence between Mr. HOPKINS, Magistrate of Nudden, now transferred, and the Commissioners, which has been published, shows that Mr. HOPKINS has failed to behave with courtesy and temper towards these sturdy gentlemen. His rudeness, however, has only recoiled upon himself, the Commissioners giving *tit for tat*. Upon a complaint by the Railway authorities, regarding delay in the removal of a corpse from near the Railway station, Mr. HOPKINS passed the following order:—"The Municipal Commissioners cannot be allowed to play with their duties in this important branch of them. They should retain *domes*. This scandal could not then arise. If the Commissioners refuse to appoint officers to perform such functions, it professes themselves incompetent.

The Sub-Divisional Officer should report the matter to me." Whether the Commissioners at all deserved such rude treatment, will be made clear from their own resolution (in better English too than Mr. HOPKINS') "That they are of opinion that their present arrangements for removal of dead bodies and for other conservancy work are satisfactory. In the case in question the Conservancy Overseer is to be held responsible. He is warned to be more careful in future." Under the circumstances disclosed by this Resolution, the Commissioners are quite justified in the way they have treated the Magistrate's order. However much we may desire harmony, it should never be purchased at the cost of honor. Fortunately for Ranaghat, Mr. HOPKINS has gone to another district, and it is hoped their relations will be more cordial with Mr. WALLER.

MR. SMITH, the Presidency Division Commissioner, now on tour, performed the ceremony of opening the *tole* founded by Srimati ANNAKALI DEBI, widow of the late Babu ANNODA PRASAD ROY of Cassimbazar, at her Cassimbazar residence. The institution will be maintained on a liberal scale of expenditure, and placed under eminent professors like Mahamahopadhyay SRIRAM SEROMANI, Pandit KALIBAR and Pandit RAMNARAYAN, VEDANTABAGIS.

THE severe censure and the order of degradation so recently passed by the Lieutenant-Governor on Mr. STACK, late District Superintendent of police of Rungpore, have been simply thrown away. At Mymensing where he has been transferred as Assistant Superintendent, he has just been convicted of assaulting a post-peon and fined. And this, be it remembered, in the face of the Government order which made his restoration to promotion subject to good reports about his conduct.

SENSATIONAL accounts are published in the *Indian Mirror* of what looks like a perfect reign of terror at Jamalpore in Mymensing. The proceedings of Mr. GLAZIER, Magistrate of Mymensing, and of the Sub-divisional officer of Jamalpore, in connection with the holding of a *meta* by the people appear to be high-handed in the extreme. In the absence of a statement from the other side, it is not safe to place implicit reliance on the version given by the alleged sufferers, but a crop of litigation is likely to arise out of the incidents, and the facts are soon expected to be put before the public.

THERE is another deadlock in prospect before the Howrah Municipality. As we had anticipated at Dr. PILCHER'S election as Chairman, he has resigned. He pleads the absorbing nature of his professional duties. But as these duties have not increased since his election, it was improper for him to accept the office at all. The Government might well have anticipated the situation, and withheld its approval of the election. As it is, Howrah must pass through another electioneering struggle to the serious detriment of the administration, which from all that one hears of defalcations in the treasury, has been far from efficient. This state of things ought to terminate at once.

AFTER all, there seems to be a legal difficulty in the way of the election of Mr. WESTMACOTT as a Municipal Commissioner. The most desperate efforts appear to have been made on both sides, on the one to procure his election, and on the other to prevent it. So far Mr. WESTMACOTT'S chances were fair. But legal opinions have been obtained from the Advocate-General, and others of the leading counsel who agree in holding that his election would be invalid under the law. Whether it is in consequence of this legal difficulty, or from any other cause, Mr. WESTMACOTT at the last moment withdrew his candidature, and as he was the only candidate, no election could take place on the day appointed by Government.

THE High Court has passed an *ad interim* order setting aside the decision of the Judge of Cuttack in regard to the appointment of a receiver for the property of the temple of Jagannath, and other arrangements for the conduct of the service of the god. The main question, as to the rights of the Government and the Rani to the administration of the temple endowments, remains, however, open, and that means another course of protracted and ruinously expensive litigation. The High Court is, with all its imperfections and faults, justly valued by the people. The present order will be hailed throughout the country. The Government ought now to give up its raid into the temple.

family that has been most grievously victimised through long months of a protracted criminal litigation set in motion against it by the combined agency of the police and judiciary in the district! Just fancy for a moment the perilous position of this helpless Hindu family—against official *Zid* and *Zoolm* who is not helpless?—through all this long period of litigation, with the police, from the highest to the lowest, breathing vengeance, the Deputy Magistrate cowed down and demoralized by the official combination, the District Magistrate apparently as much determined as the police 'on its disgrace and destruction—what anxiety, and suspense and distress and expense—what humiliation in the eyes of the tenantry, —what fears of the felon's doom, did it suffer, till, from very desperateness of situation, it at last made one supreme effort for self-deliverance!

There can be but one opinion as to the enormity of the conduct of the police officers. The Anglo-Indian press has, we think, accepted the decision of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON in regard to Messrs. SHUTTLEWORTH and STACK. As to Mr. NEWBURY, the mere circumstance of his length of service and its expiration should not have more weight than it is fairly entitled to. He had already applied for permission to resign, and this fact is expressly taken into account by the Lieutenant-Governor in awarding his penalty. Were it possible for us to believe that the Magistrate's share in these protracted and ostentatious criminal proceedings against the bold refuser of official request, and the obnoxious processionist, was nothing more than his hurried order for a fresh prosecution—were it possible for us to believe or even conceive this, we would be the last person in the world to approve Mr. NEWBURY's degradation. But, with the utmost stretch to our credulity and imagination, this is impossible. On the other hand, we see as anything that Babu ANNODA PRASAD had failed or neglected to make himself a *persona grata* to the district authorities. First, by evading express orders in connection with a street procession, and again by the hardihood of refusing to comply with a request for the loan of his elephant, he had come to appear in official eyes just the kind of spirited manhood that in natives is the most unpardonable sin in the official creed. ANNODA Babu, and, in him, his kith and kin and retainers, nay even his pet deer, thus became the eyesore of officialdom, Mr. NEWBURY not excepted. Indeed, according to this theory, his responsibility would be the heaviest. The *Statesman's* suggestion as to the necessity of these British officers in a remote mofussil station, surrounded by the native population, living close together like birds of a feather, and having the same council, whatever their differences in position, strengthen the theory. Mr. NEWBURY's implication being thus established, the severity of the punishment is only required for the discipline of the Service. Such an example now and then has the most wholesome effect upon official vagaries.

For once, in his five mortal years' reign Sir RIVERS has given a proof of his potential capacity for impartiality and force. Such is our view, and we have given him praise with no stinted hand for it. But a strange whisper comes to rob him of even this consolation to reflect upon with satisfaction in his retirement. It is said that the unflinching character of the Bengal Resolution on the subject, is due to the interference of the Viceroy. Sir RIVERS appeared to us as a kind of moral Single-speech Hamilton. Unfortunate man, he is not to be allowed the very limited glory of a monster of justice for the nonce.

#### THE INDIAN DAILY NEWS AGAINST LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

THAT the editor of the *Indian Daily News*, who fought the battle of Local Self-Government before it had acquired the dignity of an official "fad," who humbled the pride of the great Municipal Autocrat STUART HOGG, who took the chair at our great popular demonstration in Beadon Street in 1875 which, against the combined opposition of Government and the legislature, the Europeans, official and non-official, the British Indian Association, and the Corporation of Calcutta, won for the metropolis an elective municipality tempered by a minimum of official nomination, that the same JAMES WILSON should now turn round and play into the hands of the enemies of popular control over local taxes and local expenditure for local works, should ridicule the rude essayings of the people in the management of their Pedlingtonian concerns, is matter of no small surprise. Wonders will never cease, however, as the English say, and, under ordinary circumstances, we would be ready to gape at the phenomenon and derive what pleasure there might be from it. But here it is not a wonder pure and simple, but a misfortune likewise. It is not only a case of altered faith, but almost of hostility to the objects of the journalist's solicitude. He has not only thrown his old colleagues overboard, but is showing them up. Not the ghost of a chance is missed for discrediting the people's harmless pursuit of humble independence in the matter of their drains and streets and the means for making them and keeping them clean.

We have no disposition to be uncandid. We are quite alive to the imperfections of our own countrymen and to the shortcomings of the municipalities. Our complaint is that far too much is made of them. Above all, there is an obvious absence of discrimination in the criticism—an absence which seems to show *animus*. Not only is every little circumstance that makes for municipal mismanagement treasured up, but every case is wildly accepted as demonstration of the people's incompetence to manage their pettiest concerns. Nay, every partizan allegation—every vague rumour is seized upon with blind avidity for the purpose of swelling the cumulative proof of inherent national incapacity. The last exhibition occurs in a recent opening article in the leading columns. The writer travels out of British India to strengthen his suggestion that municipal institutions are a failure among the Indian people. He writes:—

Even from the classic regions of Chandernagore, we hear of Municipal scandals, though, "somehow, they manage things better in France," Sterne said. But we have nothing to do with Chandernagore, though we may record that a distinguished officer of the Republic has become so unpopular that it is said a few days ago an effigy of him was made, and placed in the Municipal Office, decorated with various mottoes or inscriptions, as "License-tax," "House-tax," "Beaver's Help," &c. The effigy was set on fire, but only the leg was burnt. The perpetrator of this outrage on the French nation has not been discovered, though the police have sought to trace him. What is it that seems to reduce Municipal government to a farce in India?

In the *furor* of his philippic, the writer blunders in his literature. Misquotation is, no doubt, much too prevalent even among respectable writers. Still we were scarcely prepared to see so good a student of English classics as the editor of the *Indian Daily News*, offer such a travesty of a well-known sentence at the opening of the *Sentimental Journey*, while professing to give the author's *ipsissima verba*. "Somehow," indeed! The editor's literary instinct ought to have saved him from such a gross slip. And the word "thing" ought to have struck him as more akin to the colloquialism of our day than to anything classical! How unSterne-like it sounds! If we may depend on our memory, "'They order it better in France,'" said—," wrote STERNE, in his characteristic way of introducing the story of his Continental tour. But let that pass.

The substance is no better than the setting. The Chandernagore story forms an episode in the anti-municipal epic, but it has no consistency, nor even coherency. Our contemporary confesses that "we have nothing to do with Chandernagore," but all the same it does not hesitate to injure the reputation of a leading citizen of the French Settlement, by giving currency to a foolish scandal about him. It takes for granted the unpopularity of him whom it calls, loosely enough, "a distinguished officer of the Republic," and goes on to state by way of proof that an effigy of him was made and placed in the municipal office, decorated with various mottoes, &c. A little reflection would have told the writer how trumpery the whole effigy business was, and how he was playing into the hands of a wretched set who were wincing under the firm administration of their Mayor. Here, on the *News'* own showing, is no real effigy business at all, such as the thing is understood in the world.



There was no burning, to begin with, but an effigy was "placed in the Municipal Office!" One would suppose that the representatives of the commune in meeting assembled formally voted this statue to their Mayor. Our neighbours do many queer things, but that would have been unprecedented even for them. We are then suddenly told that "the effigy was set on fire." What! in the office of the Municipality? And by the members of the board? That is too great an absurdity to attribute to those frog-eating French or their "niggers." It is strange that these obvious inquiries did not suggest themselves to a seasoned publicist. But there is no end to the difficulties of our contemporary's brief statement. "The effigy was set on fire, but only the leg was burnt." Are the Chandernagorians a one-legged race? The Mayor, if we may believe so much of our senses as are left by this strange treatment of a municipal squabble, sports two legs. And why was only the leg burnt? Was there a failure of combustible power? Or, was the leg only burnt on purpose? If the effigy would not burn, the physical resources of these parochial resourcers of these parochial satirists were evidently at par with their moral: their wit fell short of their malice. If, however, they chose to lick off their Mayor's nether limb only, what is the *rationale* of their taste? Were they afraid to eat up a whole Brahman even in effigy, from the same kind of compunction that deters Hinduladies from eating the head of a fish? It would have been brave and above board, at any rate, if these opponents of the Mayor had attempted to eat up even his Worship's leg with notice to that servant of the public. But the next sentence dashes to the ground that suggestion. It was as poor and sneaking a business as ever disgraced any country. It reminds one of the origin of the word pasquinade and carries us far back to the days of ecclesiastical despotism in Rome. These public spirited citizens of Chandernagore who hate their Mayor, have had a safe fling at him from the dark, without having the courage to come forward to meet him. They are not to be found for all the search made for them. They left their *gali* in the municipal office. We learn that they left the effigy at dead of night in front of the door of the office. They were more anxious to save their carcasses than to serve their cause. And it is these poor fellows whose mouthpiece our veteran of the *I. D. N.* has constituted himself! His clients' sense is equal to their courage and public spirit. The inscriptions on their handiwork prove that. "Beaver's Help" is a long story, but the insinuation conveyed is groundless, as we can say from an inspection of official papers. But the License Tax and the House Tax which are charged against the Mayor, are obviously measures beyond Mayoral or municipal jurisdiction. The *I. D. N.* ought to be sufficiently "posted up" in the events of the day to know that the outcry against these fiscal regulations is not local but prevades all French India at this moment. They are measures of the French Council. Babu PRAN KRISTO CHOWDHRY has had nothing to do with them. No, he has had—this much to do with them, that he lately went all the way to Pondicherry to procure a relaxation of the newly imposed burdens.

What particularly proves the attitude of which we are complaining in our contemporary, is that it suppresses answers and explanations. This is a vice from which the *I. D. N.* of all papers in India had been free. We have ourselves, on more than one occasion, been under obligation to our contemporary in this respect. What can be the matter with it now? Is the Father aging? We think we show our proper loyalty by following his former practice. In another column, will be found a letter which, though duly authenticated, he has refused to publish.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

### MOORSHEDABAD.

The 15th March 1887.

It is given out that Sir Alikudr Hossain Ali Mirza Nawab Bahadur of Moorshedabad, K. C. I. E., within a day or two will start for Calcutta and, after the completion of a week's sojourn there, set out direct for Missouri for a change of air, where he will likely pass the whole of the summer season. I hope the salubrious and genial climate of the hills will do him the expected good and that he will return much improved. The citizens of Moorshedabad are much indebted to him for specially the noble acts of beneficence and public utility, which he has, of late, done in honor of Her Majesty's Jubilee. There is a rumour that the Nawab, on his return from his journey for health, will undertake some other works of utility. For instance, he is said to contemplate to send up an intelligent boy to England for legal education, to enable him to come out as a barrister and practise in our city courts. Our popular Prince Iskunder Ali Mirza alias Sultan Sahib Bahadur left this the other day for Calcutta, where he has taken up his quarters at the Great Eastern Hotel. His stay, I believe, will not be a long one, the management of his noble mother's affairs requiring his attendance here. He is considered one of the most obedient and dutiful sons of his parent. The enlightened Prince has also, with his usual warm interest in the advancement of education, sent orders to Messrs.

Hamilton & Co. for 3 gold and silver medals, for the best boys of the local school. He has also subscribed Rs. 50 annually to the Union Kutubpore Club, which has recently been established by the exertions of the energetic Head Maulavi of the Government High School, one of the objects of which is to render material help to the Mahomedan boys to get up their class lessons at night. It is also gratifying to observe that this club intends, besides the secular education, to impart religious instruction in the morning for an hour and a half. For the rest, the Club is intended to promote social intercourse and friendly feelings and the exchange of mutual views, among the residents of the Kutubpore quarter of the city. The classes of the Club are under honorary teachers selected with discrimination. The Mahomedan pupils of the regular schools who attend them and their guardians who cannot employ private tutors for them, highly appreciate the boon and are grateful to the Maulvi in whom the Club originated.

The 8th teacher of the Nawab's High School having gone to Assam on an increase, it is suggested that a Mahomedan might be put in his place. The Mahomedan boys in the lower classes feel the want of Urdu explanation of their class lessons very much, and this deficiency can not be remedied but by the appointment of a Mahomedan teacher. Owing to absence of this provision in the Schools of Bengal, the Mahomedan boys are found so backward in their English studies. Boys and guardians alike will be very thankful to the Inspector of the Presidency Division for adopting the suggestion. The hostel arrangements for the Mahomedan boys in the same institution have improved now, under the supervision of the head of the Oriental Staff. He is a man of taste as will appear from the circumstance of the District Magistrate's noticing the weather cock placed in front of the top of the building hitherto situated in an obscure place, and the "compound" laid out in the English style, and expressing himself much pleased with his mode of living.

We had heavy showers of rain last night accompanied by high wind and storm which made the temperature a little cooler. The mangoe crops, which were promising abundantly, are badly damaged. The storm has made much damage and the rain, I fear, will be injurious to the *chaitali* crops. I am given to understand by the superintendents of the different gardens, belonging to the members of the Nizamut Family, that grafts, gootics and small branches of trees have been severed.

The river is rapidly going down. In the Bazar here coarse rice is selling at the rate of 24 seers per Re. 1 and vegetables are available much at the cheapest price. General health of the city is good.

A. Ali.

### THE ARNIGADH ZEMINDARS IN PARLIAMENT.

SIR,—The *Statesman* informs\* us that Lord Stanley has made a motion on the Arnigadh Case in the House of Lords, calling upon the Secretary of State for India for an explanation how it was that Government took from the Arnigadh Zemindars an estate valued at rupees 22,000, for rupees 5,700 of which they paid rupees 3,300 to the Mohunt, who only had a chief or Zemindaree perpetual lease of Rs. 5 on the estate.

All honor to Captain Hearsey who has brought this case of injustice to such an issue single-handed. We all know he is a poor man, but what has he personally endured in this case—unjust trial on a false charge at the High Court, Allahabad, at the instigation and connivance of the Lieutenant-Governor, in addition to gross insult and defamation by Sir Alfred Lyall. Notwithstanding all this, Captain Hearsey unhesitatingly and unswervingly plodded on in his arduous, nay Herculean, labors to obtain justice for an oppressed native family against the most powerful officials in the country. Captain Hearsey has on two or three occasions tried to rouse the sympathies of wealthy natives to give assistance in this case, so as to enable these Zemindars of Arnigadh to sue the Mohunt and likewise the Government of India for their illegal action.

But his appeals have fallen flat. The wealthy natives prefer spending their money on subscriptions got up by officials, in hopes they may get some of those magic letters C. S. I., or C. I. E., &c., tagged on to their names; or if they are Rajahs or Maharajas, then for an additional gun or two. Even the National Association which at first gave him hopes, never realized his expectations in the very slightest. The rich and influential in India have yet a lesson to learn, that if they wish for freedom and justice, they must be prepared to pay for it.

Without assistance from any quarter, Captain Hearsey has steadily and sturdily kept up this unequal combat for the last two years. Has India no nobleman or gentleman, who can or will come forward to help him to fight the good fight, not for his own personal profit or advantage, but that of the whole country? Perhaps this generation will never know, nor understand, nor properly value the immense service done by Captain Andrew Hearsey in cleansing the Courts of Justice of foul and abusive language on the part of the presiding officer, which was as often the rule as the exception. If in this test

\* We too gave the information about the same time as our daily contemporary.—ED. R. & R.



# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT).

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

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## The Week.

THE bees are an irreverent fraternity. A swarm of them had selected the ceiling of the Supreme Court house at Colombo for the location of their hive, and one of these days they offered serious interruption to the business of the court by their noisy demonstration, some of them even getting into the bonnets of the Judges themselves. The law of contempt had apparently no terrors for them. Nothing could prevent these unerring little workers feeling contempt for the painful efforts of these inapt strangers, without the necessary knowledge, or native instinct, to accomplish a hopeless self-imposed task.

THE storm and rain in Calcutta last week appear to have extended over a wide circuit of the country, and raged with far greater fury in northern India. At Mussoorie, there was a severe thunderstorm attended with heavy fall of hail. At Darjeeling, snow was kneedeep at places.

THE Viceroy having rather early left the capital, Sir STEUART BAYLEY, who on his return from Europe found His Excellency gone, would have taken charge of the Government of Bengal, without the advantage of a preliminary conference with his Chief. Lord DUFFERIN, however, in his hurried flight from Calcutta or in the absorption of sport in Durbhunga, did not forget any part of his duties or the claims of this great Province. Accordingly, we find him inviting his Lieutenant elect to meet him at the Gunduck Bridge.

THE Viceroy in the presence of Sir STEUART BAYLEY, the Maharajah of Durbhunga, and the district officials, opened the bridge over the Gunduck on 30th March. In asking Lord DUFFERIN to perform the ceremony, Mr. HORACE BELL, the Engineer-in-Chief of the work, gave a short account of the bridge, and referred to the advantages which would be derived from it. Sir STEUART BAYLEY and the Viceroy expressed their personal congratulations on being associated in a work of this kind. The former regretted the absence of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON who had two years ago laid the foundation stone of the bridge. As uniting two systems of railway and at the same time obviating the inconvenience and also danger of crossing the Gunduck, the bridge would afford valuable facilities to the commerce of the country.

SIR RIVERS and Lady THOMPSON and family left Calcutta on the afternoon of Sunday last for England. The party embarked at Prinsep's Ghat in the Port Commissioners' steamer *Buckland* to join the *Khedive* which lay off Fisherman's Point below Diamond Harbour on account of the state of the tide. About a hundred ladies and gentlemen were present to bid farewell to Sir RIVERS THOMPSON and his family. Sir RIVERS realized too plainly that his day was gone. The arrangements at the Ghat were almost insulting. It was apparently nobody's business to see the place even dusted. Sir RIVERS was evidently affected, and hid his emotions under his hat.

IN the absence of a popular demonstration in favor of the late Lieutenant-Governor, it will be some consolation to Sir RIVERS THOMPSON

and his friends that the memorial Committee are able to report as follows:—

"The total subscriptions to the Rivers Thompson memorial are not far short of Rs. 26,000. Signatures to the address prepared by the Committee have been received from Calcutta, Maldah, Dacca, Sylhet, Ootparaiah, Patna, Chittagong, Burdwan, Arrah, Mozufferpore, Tirhoot, Western Dooars, Jamalpore, Bankpore, Purneah, Bhagulpore, Moorshedabad, Hooghly, Raneegunge, Berhampore, Gya, and Hazaribagh."

THE Viceroy arrived at Dehra on the afternoon of last Sunday.

ON the occurrence of the late insurrection at Silistria and Rustchuk, Russia, it is said, sounded France if she would take any action, presumably against Germany, if Russia occupied Bulgaria, and that France having returned a negative reply, Russia gave up the idea.

THE American supporters of Mr. PARNELL have asked him to have nothing to do with any Round Table compromise, but to organise a more spirited campaign.

IT is reported that numerous bands of Nihilists, in a complete state of equipment, are lying hidden in St. Petersburg, ready for the word of command from the Nihilist Executive Committee to begin operations. The organization is not confined to the capital, but is spread over the length and breadth of the Empire. We believe the chief promoters and wire-pullers of these secret societies live outside.

FRANCE is impatient about the Egyptian question. She wants to treat with England regarding Egypt and the Suez Canal immediately, but England is putting off a conference pending Sir DRUMMOND WOLFF'S negotiations.

GERMANY is said to have suggested a European congress to be summoned by the Pope for the solution of the Eastern and Egyptian questions, when Prince BISMARCK will propose a disarmament.

IT is reported that a scheme for the government of Ireland without sacrificing the integrity of the Empire, has been prepared by two leading politicians, which meets with the approval of the Queen and Ministry, and is likely to please the Unionists and Conservatives.

IN reply to a question, Sir JAMES FERFUSSON said that the negotiations of Sir DRUMMOND WOLFF promised a favorable result and that great advantages were expected to accrue from the Convention. He also hinted that the Mission would terminate soon.

IN the debate on the Crimes Bill, a motion for its rejection was made by Sir B. SAMUELSON, the Liberal member for North Oxfordshire, on the ground that it would aggravate the crisis in Ireland and endanger the Union.

THE first application of the new Cloture rule produced an explosion in the House of Commons. The discussion of Mr. PARNELL'S amendment, that the House should go into committee for the purpose of considering the state of Ireland, having already proceeded long and been animated enough, and the Parnellites seeming to be determined to drag on the debate, Mr. W. H. SMITH, First Lord of the Treasury and

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

Leader of the House, moved the Cloture which was adopted by 361 against 253 votes. Upon this, Mr. GLADSTONE with the whole of the Radicals and Parnellites left the House in a body. The Crimes Bill was then read a first time without any opposition.

REUTER says that Sir ARTHUR PEEL, the Speaker of the House of Commons, has been advised by his medical advisers to take rest. The prolonged and stormy sittings of Parliament of late have seriously told upon his health.

At the Colonial Conference at London which was opened on the 4th instant, Lord SALISBURY said that the defence of the Empire was of common interest to England and the Colonies, and that in view of the increasing desire on the part of the European States to acquire Colonial possessions, it behoved the Colonies of England to take a fair share in the mutual defence by furnishing men as well as means.

REUTER says that the Radicals are organizing anti-Coercion demonstrations on an extensive scale, and notably one at Hyde Park which was to be held on the 1st instant.

SLIGHT shocks of earthquake were felt at Aden for four days together commencing from the 2nd instant, not attended, however, with any damage.

THE Russian Government has decided to push on the construction of its Central Asian Railways to Bokhara, Samarcand and Tashkend, and also ordered for another line to run from Orenburg on the Ural River by the north of the sea of Aral to Taskkend. This will secure uninterrupted communication between the Russian posts on the Chinese and Indian frontiers and all parts of Russia in Europe.

THE following is an extract from the speech from the Throne on the occasion of the opening of the present German Parliament :—

"I am charged by His Majesty the Emperor to express his satisfaction at the benevolent interests which the Pope evinces for the German Empire and for its internal peace.

The foreign policy of the Emperor tends continually to maintain peace with the neighbouring Powers.

Parliament can back, in the most effective manner, that pacific policy, in adopting with promptitude, earnestness and unanimity the prospects of the law, having for its object the immediate and durable augmentation of the defensive forces of the Empire.

If Parliament shows without hesitation, without division, by a unanimous vote that the German nation is resolved to employ, now and always, the absolute totality of its forces completely armed to repel all aggressions against our frontiers, it will strengthen considerably by its very resolutions and before they are put in execution, the guarantees on which depends the maintenance of peace, and will dispel the doubts which have been inspired by the debates in the last Parliament concerning the projects of the law relating to the augmentation of our army.

The Emperor is convinced that the present Parliament will furnish by its decisions a sure basis for the national policy of the confederate Governments, and puts in that conviction the assurance that God will bless the efforts which it makes for the maintenance of peace and security of Germany."

ON Friday the 25th February last, Paris was adorned with a new statue, that of LOUIS BLANC, which was inaugurated in Monge, in the centre of the quarter to which he has imparted a notable part of his popularity. The statue, the work of M. DELHOMME, represents the historian in a sitting posture, holding in his left hand a volume on which are engraved these four words : *Histoire de dix ans*. On the pedestal is written : Louis Blanc, 1811-1882. The discourses that were pronounced on the occasion of the unveiling of the statue, will add nothing to the memory of LOUIS BLANC, a name which is already widely known throughout the civilized world.

M. KABLE, the appointed chief of the French party of the protestation against the German occupation, has been elected Deputy for Strasbourg. The gentleman who was at Nice, on learning his re-election to the Reichstag, sent to the electors of Strasbourg, the following telegram :—

"Thanks, brave people ! whom neither menaces nor terror could move in their consciences."

M. ANTOINE, a member of the Reichstag for Metz, has been expelled by the German Government from Alsace on account of his French leanings.

WE translate the following interesting notice from the Paris letter of *Le Petit Bengali* :—

In middle of February last, the Pope of Rome received Mgr. Azarian the Patriarch of Armenia, who was the envoy sent by the Sultan of Turkey. The ceremony of the reception was a solemn spectacle, which took place in the Throne-room of the Vatican. The Swiss soldiers of His Holiness formed the guard of honour and the Cardinals and Bishops present at Rome as well as the Turkish students assisted at that ceremony. The Holy Father wore a magnificent stole—an offering by the Patriarch in the name of the Armenian Catholics. The Patriarch, who was dressed in an imposing oriental costume, read a discourse to which the Pope replied in eloquent terms. The successor of Peter then took the autograph from the representative of Mohamet brought by Mgr. Azarian and put on his finger the precious ring which Abdul Hamid had sent to him.

Leo XIII. thanked the Patriarch for the kind words which he spoke to him in the name of the Sultan and testified how he appreciated the liberty which is accorded to the Catholics in the Ottoman Empire. The meeting lasted about an hour and in retiring to their own apartments, the Pope sent to the Cardinals and the prelates the brevets and decorations which the Patriarch had brought.

THE Great Burman leader, BUDDHA YAZA, who is now firmly secured with hand-cuffs and leg-irons in the quarter-guard at Mingin, is described as a most evil-looking man, of about 23 years, with a wen, of the size of a hen's egg between his eyes, and a deformed web-fingered hand. His downfall is expected to have great effect as the Burmans regard him as a religious prodigy.

THE report of BOH SHOWAY'S death has not yet been confirmed. But it is generally believed, particularly as nothing has been heard of him lately. The leader of Woonthoo has kept all his promises. The balance of his tribute has been paid.

A BHAMO telegram reports that a cyclone burst on that frontier on the evening of 4th April, blowing down half the native houses and demolishing one of the largest barracks. Two Shans and a Chinaman were killed and a number of other natives wounded by falling trees and houses. No Europeans were injured.

THERE have been several shiftings and shufflings in the Italian Ministry. Count ROBELANT has resigned.

THE Colonial and Indian Exhibition, after meeting all expenses and paying the Exhibition staff a bonus of 25 per cent of their salaries, leaves a profit balance of £8,000.

THE Chinese Government has removed its prohibition on the export of iron and steel by sea.

THE recent earthquake in Southern Europe appears to have been attended with some curious phenomena. It is said that a strange paralysis overtook the cattle an hour before the earthquake actually burst. During its continuance, a column of steam arose from the town of Diano Marina, and a jet of water rose from the sea.

A GENTLEMAN from Nice gives the following description of the scene that took place at that town on the occurrence of the recent earthquake in Italy :—

"It was about 6 o'clock in the morning that the first shock was felt. Soon the walls of houses began to crack, so that plasters from ceilings fell profusely. In the twinkling of an eye, the streets of the city presented an indescribable spectacle. A great multitude of persons in chemises in the most indescribable costumes, came out there running, crying and lamenting for their lives. There were old women and English misses hardly dressed as well as infants scarcely awakened. When the first panic was over, the affrighted multitude sought for places for shelter, not daring to enter the houses. The hackney carriages, boats and the baths on the seashore were turned into chambers where the unfortunate people took their shelter. Such was the demand for the baths, that some of them fetched 200 francs to their owners. Many ran to the railway, and about 10,000 persons took the train that day. At Cannes, Marseilles, Grenoble and Layon, the same shock was felt, but there was there little or no havoc. A second shock was felt at 8 o'clock and a third in the following night. At Grasse, an old tower fell destroying 3 houses and a certain number of persons. \* \* \* \* The Prince of Wales, who was at Nice at the moment of the earthquake, did not descend into the gardens of the house but remained in his bed. Happily no accident happened to him."

AN important Railway Conference attended by representatives of the East Indian Railway, the Indian Midland Railway and the Oudh and Rohilkund line was held at Allahabad to settle the details of the junction of the lines at Cawnpore.

THE recommendation of the Finance Committee that a portion of the Original Jurisdiction of the Madras High Court should be made over to the Small Cause Court and the necessity of appointing an additional Judge thereby avoided, does not meet with the acceptance of the Judges of the High Court. At Bombay the High Court Judges had no work for the last two weeks, all the arrears being disposed of in consequence of the appointment of an additional Judge. Most of our High Courts are overfull of Judges. As in some of the native states, there are more Kazis than cases. Here is a field for substantial economy, if Government is in earnest.

THE *Sydney Mail* writes :—

"A mirage of extraordinary clearness was seen from the deck of the British India Company's steamer *Sirsa* during her recent voyage from Calcutta to Sydney. When the *Sirsa* was within 115 miles of Adelaide, the city of Adelaide presented itself in the sky, and so distinctly that all the churches and houses were plainly visible; the surf breaking on the shore was also very noticeable. A ship in mid ocean was also seen; her actual motion could be discerned with the greatest of ease, and strange to relate the *Chingta* passed this very vessel a few hours afterwards. It was unanimously agreed that the sight was one of magnificence, and it has been indelibly pressed upon the memories of all who saw it."

THE native assistants of the mercantile firms in Calcutta held a meeting on Saturday last at the Dalhousie Institute, under the presidency of Babu BEHARILAL SANDEL, for the purpose of considering the desirability of establishing a Provident Fund for their benefit in time of need or for the benefit of their surviving relations after their death. Such a movement can only succeed with the co-operation of the heads of those firms, which, it is to be hoped, will not be denied.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY will unveil the statue of Sir ASHLEY EDEN on Friday the 15th instant.

MR. W. B. WOODGATE, the famous oarsman, says that the average boy of sixteen in 1887 weighs seven pounds more than the boy of 1857, and attributes the superiority to better feeding.

At the late B. L. Examination of the Calcutta University, the Metropolitan Institution of Pundit ISWAR CHUNDER VIDYASAGUR has turned out 84 successful candidates against 68 from all the remaining nine colleges which competed. Next to the Metropolitan, the City College passed 23 and the Ripon College 16. The Presidency College Law Department has been abolished. Yet it shows one successful candidate, who had probably completed his law studies in that College some years ago.

LIEUTENANT OGILVIE, a Commissariat official at Rawal Pindi, met with his death under extremely sad and painful circumstances. He with his recently married wife was driving in the park when his dog got entangled in the weeds of a pond. He went to the rescue of the dog, but got so involved in the weeds that he was drowned. His young wife was a helpless spectator of the catastrophe.

ENERGETIC efforts are being made by the landholders and merchants of Amarcote to prevail on the authorities to sanction the construction of 240 miles of railway connecting Pali on the Rajputana line with Hyderabad in Sind *via* Amarcote.

THE foundation-stone of the Dacca Medical School building was laid this week by Mr. LARMINIE, Commissioner of the Division.

SIR JOHN POPE HENNESSY was to have left Mauritius on the 16th March under peremptory orders of the Colonial Office.

A COLOMBO telegram reports that the pearl fishery commenced on 3rd April, resulted in a capture of 1,200,000 oysters that day, each realizing at auction from Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 per 1,000.

MR. H. B. H. TURNER of Messrs. TURNER, Morrison and Company, is elected President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce in the place of Mr. CRUIKSHANK, gone home.

WE republish the following news for what it may be worth :—

"A well-informed correspondent" writes to the Lahore paper that reliable news from Cabul describes the Ameer as seriously alarmed at the coalition formed against him by the most powerful and warlike clans of the great Ghilzai tribe, who muster strong in Northern Afghanistan. The Ameer, he says, has applied to the Government of India for help and advice, which, he has been told in reply, is contingent on the orders of the Home Government. The popular feeling against the Ameer in Afghanistan is very strong, and the fanatical element against him is practically rampant, and successful in stirring up popular hatred and keeping alive the belief that he has secretly sold his country and people to the British Government, and has privately consented to the construction of a railway to Candahar, in order to facilitate the advance of British troops into Afghanistan. The Ameer, our correspondent further states, congratulates himself upon his wisdom and forethought in securing the bulk of his treasure at Fyzabad, the capital of Badakshan in Afghan-Turkistan, to which place he is fully resolved to retire in the event of serious reverse and disaster, of which he is apprehensive. And as there is no one left to succeed him, excepting Sirdar Ayoob Khan, his cousin, who is now a refugee in Persia, most serious trouble and confusion should not be unexpected in Afghanistan."

That is evidently an alarmist's news.

ONE SOSHE BHUSAN COONDOO, maternal uncle-in-law of Babu HARAGOPAL COONDOO CHOWDRY, of the well-known Mohiari Coondoo family, stands charged with seven others as abettors with having borrowed Rs. 15,000 from a Zemindar named Babu GOBIND CHUNDER ROY, by passing himself as Baboo HARAGOPAL, and mortgaging a portion of the Coondoo Zemindary. The case is under trial by the Hon'ble SYED AMIR HOSSEIN, of the Calcutta Police Court.

A COMMITTEE appointed by the New York Legislature, to examine into the most expeditious method of inflicting the penalty of death in cases of murder, have recommended the substitution of the electric battery for hanging. The battery should be so heavily charged as to produce instant death, which would be entirely painless while it would be less barbarous and offensive in its outward aspects.

THE Mohunt of Ramputti in the Madhubani district being away from home, his house was entered by a gang of 40 to 50 robbers and property to the value of Rs. 52,000 carried. Some of the robbers, however have been arrested, and a small portion of the property recovered.

A TELEGRAM from Bombay reported the arrest of Maharaja PERTAB SING, brother of the reigning Maharaja of Jodhpore—at Bombay en route to Europe. A subsequent telegram essays to remove the impression. What took place was that when he was present at the unveiling of Sir RICHARD TEMPLE's statue, the order of attachment was shown him by the Sheriff's officer, but the amount of the Delhi Bank's claim was soon afterwards paid to the solicitors.

SIR SALAR JUNG is reported to be seriously indisposed and proposes making a trip to Ceylon. From the first, he seemed to be suffering from fatty degeneration. What a contrast between JUNG I and JUNG II, physically as well as morally! Yet the illustrious deceased could not have got by heart a speech of an hour's length and delivered it without a hitch. Indeed, there is unquestionable intelligence, beaming in the eyes peering over the stuffed cheeks of the young Vizier.

THE *Indian Spectator* says that at a meeting held at Mr. P. M. MEHTA's house for the purpose of commemorating the unofficial services of Sir W. WEDDERBURN, Rs. 6,000 was subscribed on the spot and that it was likely that the sum had been already quadrupled in and out of Bombay. "It needs," says our contemporary "little more than clerical labor to swell the list—in the case of a friend who has given freely of his time and his substance for the general good." If we understand the meaning of the *Spectator*, the movement in honor of Sir W. WEDDERBURN will not suffer from want of funds. We rejoice in the fact as an indication of the growing capacity in our countrymen to appreciate true worth and recognise it suitably.

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—Diseases of the Bowels.—A remedy, which has been tested and proved in a thousand different ways, capable of eradicating poisonous taints from ulcers and healing them up, merits a trial of its capacity for extracting the internal corruptions from the bowels. On rubbing Holloway's Ointment repeatedly on the abdomen, a rash appears, and as it thickens the alvine irritability subsides. Acting as a derivative, this unguent draws to the surface, releases the tender intestines from all acrid matter, and prevents inflammation, dysentery, and piles, for which blistering was the old-fashioned, though successful treatment, now from its painfulness fallen into disuse, the discovery of this Ointment having proclaimed a remedy possessing equally derivative, yet perfectly painless, powers.

## Editorial Notes.

THE Report of the second meeting of the Indian Congress, held in Calcutta, is a very full account of the proceedings of its several sittings. The speeches have been reported at length. The list of delegates which had been separately issued shortly after the close of the Congress, has judiciously been incorporated and the opinions of the press upon the movement have also been reprinted. The report is a handsome looking volume, neatly got up, and altogether a valuable addition to Indian political literature. The prefatory essay which introduces the historical narrative of the Congress is, we believe, written by Mr. A. O. HUME, whose labors in connection with the publication have been most arduous. We regret to hear Mr. HUME has lately been very ill, no doubt from the strain of these labors, and has suddenly left Calcutta for his home on the hills. We hope the change will restore him to his usual health and activity.

THE Sub-Committee of the Public Service Commission closed their sittings in Calcutta on the 5th and will resume their work at Allahabad on Monday, the 11th April.

The Sub-Committee have knocked off a large amount of work during the sittings in Calcutta. They have heard a number of witnesses on the recruitment for the Police and the Pilot Services, the Customs Department, the Railways, the Opium Department, the Accounts Branch, and the Postal and Education Departments. The weight of evidence was strongly against the appointment to the Pilot service of natives, on the ground of their want of nerve and resource in emergencies. The absence of promotion of Subordinate Police officers to the higher grades, was brought out in the evidence as the weak point of the system of police organization, while opinions were pretty equally balanced as to the introduction of educational tests for raising the morale of the Service. Raja DURGA CHARAN LAW spoke out boldly and like a patriot as well as a man of business to the fitness of natives for the superior offices in the Customs Department. A great point was thus scored, for it would not be easy to set aside the opinion of an experienced merchant like the Raja who is held in esteem by the European mercantile community. Mr. RIVETT-CARNAC, head of the Opium Department, bore unequivocal testimony to the ability of natives under a system of careful selection and training for the higher duties of that Service, although the evidence of some of the subordinates of the Department, given evidently under sinister influences, went in a contrary direction. Baboo MOTILAL GHOSE of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* took the Commission by storm, as it were, by his specific exposure of the gigantic system of nepotism which prevails in the Postal Service. The evidence of Mr. E. T. ATKINSON, on the subject of appointments to the Accounts Department, and of other witnesses relating to the higher Education Service, will be noticed subsequently.

THE District Board of the 24 Pergunnahs has, we see, turned its attention to the reclamation of silted up ponds and reservoirs. The movement, we need scarcely say, has our heartiest sympathy, and we hope, in the interests of sanitation, a substantial allotment will be made for the purpose. The co-operation of the Municipalities in this matter should also be obtained towards an effective general scheme.

There are famous lakelets in several parts of the country of a very ancient date, which, in their silted up condition, are a source of imminent danger to their neighbourhoods. When these are located in municipal jurisdictions, it behoves the Sanitary Department and the district authorities to direct the attention of the municipal boards to the urgent importance of taking prompt measures for their improvement. A scheme should be adopted on the subject and worked out steadily. As things now stand, this seems to be no body's particular business, nor is there any steadiness or continuity of aim. For a beginning, as regards the 24 Pergunnahs, we may draw the attention of Mr. FORBES, Magistrate of the district, to the deplorable condition of the Baranagar *dighee*. It has a historic interest as one of the antiquities of that old town and its situation in the heart of the most populous part of the municipality entitles it to the attention of the authorities. The late Chairman of the Municipality had taken up the question, but nothing has been heard of the matter for some months past.

MR. S. E. WHEELER, late editor of the *Civil and Military Gazette*, was entertained at a farewell dinner in the Panjab Club on the eve of his departure from this country. This young man is the son of Mr. TALBOYS WHEELER, the pedagogue and booksellers' hack, who rose to be almost an Indian Civilian as an Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, and has written a voluminous History of India, not without merits. He is so far a chip of the old block as to have a facile pen. But he has not inherited the better qualities of his sire. He does not care to remember his family obligations to the Baboos, but apparently hates them—the more for having helped to make his parent famous. He has gone beyond Colonel CORRY in his malignity to the Bengalis who have given England the Empire of India.

BABU CHUNDER NARAIN SING, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Bhagalpore, and Babu DIPRADAS BANERJEE, Government Pleader, 24-Pergunnahs, have made endowments of Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 700 respectively for founding silver medals in the schools of their native towns. The medals are, of course, to be named after the donors or their relatives.

In these days we are not satisfied with killing two birds with one stone, but hanker for a bagful. These two endowments are typical instances of how far a little money may be made to go. Formerly, to begin with, none but a lunatic would have indulged himself in dreams of immortality unless he was prepared to sink half a lac or so. Now-a-days we not only make a perpetuity of a gift of a few hundred Rupees, but are assisted by Government to keep alive the memory of our insignificance and our ancestral ignobility into the bargain. As if all this were not sufficient consideration for our money, we must air our personal regards and particular views, or at least our loyalty to the "fads" of the day and the idols of the hour, in the connection.

EVEN Mr. WILSON of the Cambay Scandal notoriety is not without his "friends and admirers." He goes home to lay an appeal against the verdict of guilty passed on him by the Commission of Enquiry and endorsed by the Government of Bombay, and to enable him to do so with a better face, they have armed him with a certificate of character largely signed by the Inamdars, bankers and other native inhabitants of Khaira. Really this is carrying the game of certificate-hunting too far. Those who have any experience of how signatures now-a-days are got or forged to these eternal testimonials, memorials, or other public documents will be in no danger from the imposition. It is time, however, that a warning should be given to the public and circulated as widely as possible, not to put faith upon such trumpery credentials merely because they are subscribed by a great many names. The signatures are often of no value whatsoever, being obtained under false representations, or forged *en bloc* by wire-pullers, more energetic than scrupulous, in gaining their selfish objects.

THE latest notoriety in a small way of the Indian Civil Service is Mr. PARTRIDGE, Joint Magistrate of Benares, who is said to have turned a legal practitioner out of Court by force and with marks of degradation. There happened to be two *mooktears* (attorneys) on the same side, one of whom, QUASIM ALI, having cross-examined, the other, KEDAR NATH, got up and asked permission to put a few more questions to the witness. The Magistrate did not grant permission, saying that the cross-examination had been closed. KEDAR NATH submitted that the cross-examination had not been closed and he could go on with it with the court's permission. Mr. PARTRIDGE got furious and ordered the Police on duty to seize the mooktear by the neck and turn him out. KEDAR NATH did not wait for the execution of the order but as he was hastening out of the magisterial Presence, a couple of constables rushed up, laid hold of him by the arms and precipitated him out of court. This is of course an *ex parte* statement, but such things are quite common in this country, and they are directly encouraged by the impunity enjoyed by the offending officers. Matters are bad enough in Bengal, but they are far worse in Upper India, in Madras, in the more remote parts of Bombay, and in the jurisdictions of the Political Agencies. Mr. LAIDMAN'S treatment of suitors and his support by his Government cannot have been forgotten. A still more recent case is that of Mr. SALMON'S infamous treatment of counsel and suitors of the ruling house of Morvee.

THE Panjab University scandals repeated year after year ought to be a warning against the common practice of starting premature movements in this country. Before the frontier province has made sufficient progress in education or public spirit, they were in a hurry to found a university, of all things in the world. It has never worked well, simply for the reason that it could never work under the circumstances. The Senate consists of men for the most part too illiterate or too servile to administer the affairs of such an institution. The European minority can possibly feel no interest in their work in association with such colleagues. The whole government of the University falls in consequence into the hands of a small clique who have in all things their own way. The examinations are a farce. Question-papers are bought and sold in the open market, till even the small value possessed by these Indian Universities as manufactories of diplomas, is lost. The educational value of Universities, here as elsewhere, is never of the highest. At best, that value is a commercial one, and that of a negative kind. Even this negative commercial value is now destroyed by the systematic sale of question-papers which has been going on in the Panjab University. The *Lahore Tribune*, which had always opposed the University movement from the first and predicted the failure which has occurred, loudly calls for an enquiry. Our contemporary demands the instant dismissal of Mr. LARFENT from the Registrarship. An inquiry has been granted, but its scope should, we think, be much more largely extended. For the only logical conclusion which suggests itself from the critical state of things which has taken place, is a clear sweeping away of an institution for which the time is not yet ripe.

The *Tribune* makes these revelations :—

"It is a matter proved that Mr. Lewis's paper on Mathematics, for the F. A. Examination leaked off before the date of the Examination. We have the statement of Faqueer Chand before Mr. Nil Madhub Mitra that he had purchased all the papers. We have the opinion of an educational officer that so far as he could judge, all the papers had leaked out, and as to the Political Economy paper he had special reasons to believe that it had leaked out. We have reasons to believe that the Persian papers also had leaked out. Again, we have seen that in Multan the Persian papers for the Vernacular candidates for the F. A. examination were not received on the date of the examination. The same thing happened at Peshawar in connection with Persian papers for the Anglo-Vernacular candidates for the Entrance examination."

More disclosures of the kind will no doubt be forthcoming. They show a most disgraceful state of things. The new Governor will have a most ungracious task, indeed, in purging the Augean Stable, but if he shrink from measures suited to the gravity of the occasion, he will greatly disappoint the people. It is noteworthy that these University disclosures happen exactly when Sir ALFRED LYALL adds to the eclat of his administration by having a University for the North West Provinces.

UNDER the head of "An Extraordinary Excuse for Mischief" is going the round of the papers the record of a petty London Police case. Lieutenant-Colonel PHILIP DICKSON, of Landsdowne-road, Bedford, was brought up on the 1st March at the Westminster Police court, on a charge of wilfully breaking one of the lamps of the Houses of Parliament in Palace-yard. In explanation, the defendant said :—

"He wished to point out that the laws passed by the Government and Parliament, which were effective against the humble and poor, were openly trodden on and ignored by the rich and influential. The laws of Parliament which ruled poor people were powerless against the rich. The magistrate: What do you say to this charge? The defendant: I served, Sir, throughout the Crimean war, and was never absent from duty, and I have been treated with greatest illegality by the Duke of Cambridge, who kept me under arrest thirteen or fourteen months when it was ordered that no officer should be kept under arrest more than eight days, or until such time as a court martial could assemble. The Marquis of Ripon promised me redress within a year and having trusted to that promise I found that I lost the right to appeal, which must be made within six months. By trusting to the Marquis of Ripon I have been made an outlaw for many years. The Magistrate: I think your mind must be affected. The defendant: Not a bit of it, Sir. *Mens sana in corpore sano* I still enjoy, thank God. You may think it was an extraordinary thing to do, but I maintain that I have as much right to commit an illegal act as His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. The Magistrate: I must fine you 10s., and the damage, 2s. Will you pay the money? The defendant: I will take a little time to think about it, Sir. The Magistrate: In default, seven days. The defendant: Oh, yes; I know a little about law. (A laugh.) The fine was paid immediately."

Colonel DICKSON's mental health is sound we hope, though his British logic may well cast a suspicion on it. Indeed, we should suspect him to be a Green Islander, for to say that any-one has a right to do a wrong, is as near the perpetration of a bull as may be. Not even

a Royal Duke, nor for the matter of that, the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, has, we take it, the right to commit a wrong. Royal Highnesses themselves, are liable to punishment: if they escape it, they escape by maladministration. As the great Brahman legislator, Manu, has it, "Punishment is the true manager of affairs." "Punishment governs all mankind—punishment alone preserves men, for punishment watches while their guards might be asleep," &c. The sovereign himself is not above law. According to the Veda, the Law is the king of kings. As for Colonel DICKSON, not even his great wrong gives him the slightest right to do a wrong, however petty.

His case is a melancholy one, however. It is possible that his wrongs have affected his mind. He appears to have brooded on them far too long than was good for its integrity. Yet it is just as likely that he took his extraordinary step deliberately, and the event may yet justify his calculation. It is easy to laugh at eccentricities but the eye of sympathy will detect traces of method in many a case of supposed madness. Alas! the lucky have no idea of the depths of extremity in which souls good and true are often plunged. Many acts of outrage are obviously the execution of wild justice, by the hand of suffering. Such taking of the law in one's own hand should not be encouraged as tending to anarchy; but it is difficult sometimes to resist commiserating the exasperated miserable—the innocent victims of the original wrong. Likewise, many other desperate acts will, on close inquiry, be found to be the only means left to their authors, if possible, to compass legitimate ends. It is to this category that Colonel DICKSON's breach of the law belongs.

He conceived himself ill used by his superiors in office, and he sought justice, but in vain. He has been in quest of it all these many years to no better purpose. He could obtain no hearing. He doubtless tried to bring his case before Parliament, but without success. Then he would appeal to the general public, but by that he had probably become a marked man—a man with a grievance against the great, and he did not succeed. There is not a more despised man than the man with a grievance. Patriots and reformers will not look at him. Even the newspapers fight shy of him. But Providence has left one last resource to the unfortunate. Poor Colonel DICKSON breaks a street lamp, and lo! his case is in every mouth, and we black journalists at the antipodes hear of his grievance and comment on it. He has succeeded so far. He has got the next best thing to a proper hearing, and he has at last some tolerable chance of obtaining as much relief as is now possible.

LEAVING for a future occasion a more extended notice of the amended Municipal Bill for Calcutta, we must express our approval generally of the alterations made in regard to the constitution of the Board and the qualifications of voters. The number of elected Commissioners is fixed at fifty, of the remaining twenty-five, fifteen being nominated by the Government, four by the Chamber of Commerce, four by the Traders' Association, and two by the Port Trust. There are several novelties in the recast. We have ourselves no absolute objection, and indeed we like a spice of experiment of the kind, but the authors will, we fear, not find it easy to give a satisfactory reason why fellows or graduates of the University as such should be qualified to vote, particularly when the franchise is restricted to the ward in which the Senate-house of the University is situated. The principle of this provision is not clear. The system of making the valuation of the house the standard qualification, rather than the payment of rates, and of allowing plural votes, is an improvement of great practical value, and we agree with the Select Committee in regarding it as a change which will be attended with advantage and convenience. We demur to some of the alterations in section 29. The Municipal Fund may well bear the new obligations of paying for the construction of hospitals, it may perhaps even bear the burden of the establishment and maintenance of primary schools and patshalas, but to saddle it with the cost of public ceremonies and entertainments in Calcutta, will be to expose it to periodical inroads from outside which would press hard on it, and ultimately lead to increase the burdens of the tax-payers. The proposal for fixing the minimum salary of the Chairman at Rs. 2,500 is only natural. But we do not see that there is any sufficient reason why the pay of the Vice-Chairman should be suddenly raised to half as much again of what it is. This office should, in our opinion, be reserved for natives, and Rs. 1000 a month is not insufficient inducement to draw the most competent men.



## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1887.

### WELCOME SIR STEUART BAYLEY!

WE accord a hearty welcome to Sir STEUART BAYLEY. Bengal has not had a people's Governor for a long, long time. May Sir STEUART prove one such—a second Sir JOHN PETER GRANT! That is the wish uppermost in the country's mind. As usual on a new succession, there is keen speculation going on how far their new Ruler is likely to realize their fond anticipations. Sir STEUART's antecedents are reviewed and closely examined; the slightest incidents in his official career are called up, scanned and scrutinised; his past minutes, reports and speeches are pressed to the service; and altogether Sir STEUART is now an object of intense universal interest and curiosity. Nay, they hang on his words, his manners, and minutest movements, in hopes of getting some light as to his normal disposition and characteristic tendencies. So far, only the pleasantest forecasts—the most reassuring conclusions have been the result of all this vigilant anxious watching and examination. To a great extent, we fear, the wish is father to the thought in these speculations. However natural it may be to look to antecedents, these do not always furnish a reliable index to the future. Without opportunities of intimate acquaintance, with little or no social or official intercourse, such guesses are, at best, a political pastime. Both Sir ASHLEY EDEN and Sir RIVERS THOMPSON belied their antecedents. If the past has any value as an indication of the future, Sir ASHLEY EDEN was destined for the highest success at the head of the Government of Bengal. His attitude, when quite a junior officer, towards the vicious system under which a great cultivation was conducted in Lower Bengal, marked him out as a man of broad views and correct principles. Following up the good example set by a Mahomedan Deputy Magistrate, (Nawab ABDOL LUTEEF Bahadur) he discredited the fiction by which predial servitude had been maintained in Baraset as in other districts. So closely, indeed, did he identify himself with the cause of the peasantry, that he pleaded for them in a series of trenchant articles which he contributed to the local press of the day. He underwent no small risks by his open advocacy of liberal measures and firm equitable administration. What a change came over the spirit of the man's dream, on his elevation to the post of command! He commenced dubiously, but soon went from bad to worse, till, by a curious irony of fate, the most outspoken and formidable leader-writer of Bengal conspired with the literary son of BULWER—BULWER the novelist, essayist, critic, poet, minister of state, orator, pamphleteer, satirist, and oft-quoted defender of the Liberty of the Press—to forge fetters for the popular Press of India. A similar transformation was observable in Sir RIVERS THOMPSON. Whatever his denominational bigotry, he was ordinarily distinguished by his liberality and freedom from bias. As Secretary to the Government of Bengal, he won the esteem of all classes for his sense of duty and the purity of his motives. Weak in his independent position in Burma, in the Executive Council of the Government of India he proved a courtier. Yet, if he was a party to the Afghan raid of LYTON, no one more steadily supported the liberal policy of Lord RIBON.

Though thus his antecedents were inconsistent, they were all harmonised by one principle. A weak vein of good intentions ran through his career. He was consistent in his disposition to the people. Born in Lower Bengal of a Lower Bengal Civilian family, he liked the Bengalis, as much as his unfortunate religionism would allow. Yet so trying to weak human virtue is high office, behold the same man at his crowning opportunity belying his whole life! Installed in the Governorship of Bengal, Sir RIVERS made an entire change of front, and his administration was one continuous dallying with some favored class or interest or succumbing meekly to the worst bureaucratic influences. It is, however, a mistake, in the long run, to estrange the people, and, judging from the late Lieutenant-Governor's gushing protestations of love for the Bengalis on the eve of his departure, he seems to have fully realized his mistake when too late to mend it. Notwithstanding all his protestations—in spite of his assumptions as to the character of the farewell honors which he received from a section of society, the fact cannot be gainsaid that Sir RIVERS THOMPSON had failed to satisfy the nation. He lost entire touch with his people. Indeed, he had come to such a pass—he had so little the talent of conciliation—that even the British Indian Association, with its traditional amiability to retiring magnates, kept aloof from the movement got up by his friends and subordinates for his honor. Sir RIVERS must have felt his isolation bitterly, and realized at last that it is the people who have the last word in regard to the character of an administration.

Those who are just now at such pains to ransack the records of Sir STEUART BAYLEY's early career, may, after all, find themselves on a dubious track leading to no sure goal—perchance marked by false indices. There is a good reason for it. The position of Ruler of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, has, in fact, little in common with the circle of offices, however high and distinguished, through which the favoured of Queen and Viceroy usually emerges into it. It is, indeed, almost a kingly position, with influences and inspirations of its own. The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has more onerous duties than belong to one at least of the Governorships in India. In truth, it is a position of power and responsibility which, in the opinion of not a few thoughtful politicians, might well be reserved, in the same way as the Governorships of Madras and Bombay, for a superior class of men of English training brought out from home. At any rate, the people's successive disappointment in their recent Civilian Rulers must lend some force to such an opinion. Certainly, the Civil Service offers no true noviciate for exalted gubernatorial office. The greatest advantage of a Civilian Ruler is no doubt his practical knowledge of administrative details, acquired by serving in the subordinate grades of the Service. At the same time, the greatest obstacle to his success must often arise from the narrowing influences of a mere Service training. Familiarity with details is not all in all. However useful or important, it may not be a preservative against failure. The ablest Secretary or even the most successful District or Divisional officer is not sure of making a good Governor. The greatest Civilian expert may, by his very confidence in his technical skill, be precipitated into gross blunder.

The examples of his predecessors cannot fail to be a warning to Sir STEUART BAYLEY. He will, we trust, have realized that to succeed in his



great position, he must bring something more to his work than his Civilian experience and business habits. Indeed, the associations, traditions and leanings of the Service, may often prove a clog rather than an aid. Above all, he must call up to the aid of his undisputed ability and force of character all the sympathy for the people of which he may be capable, in order that he may attain a just conception of his position, which is that of the responsible ruler, for a term, of an ancient country and an awakened nationality as well as of a state of many races and faiths and clashing interests. The present circumstances of the country make that position one of unusual difficulty and delicacy. The hardest problem for his solution is to assuage the antagonism of feeling which prevails between the Europeans and natives. The Europeans in this country are more numerous than before, and daily their numbers are on the increase. They have penetrated into the recesses of the country, and invested immense capital in its trade and manufactures. The nature of their avocations necessarily brings them into intimate relations with the poorest part of the population. They are large employers of native labor. Otherwise, there need not be any occasion for differences arising between them and the people. Time was when the non-official Anglo-Indians regarded their interests as identical with those of the people, when all political movements in this country brought the two classes together in their endeavour to wrest common privileges from the official body. Of late, however, the rise of new industries, and of competition and complicated relations in many ways and different fields, and, last not least, the progress of an educated native community have served more and more to estrange the sympathies of non-official Anglo-Indians from the people. At the present moment, a wide gulf of separation divides the whole European community from the natives. Their relations and mutual feelings are of a most unsatisfactory kind, and it will tax the utmost conciliating powers of Sir STEUART BAYLEY to bring them to look more kindly on each other. The state of things is highly to be regretted, but as it has been to no small extent the result of the weakness or exclusiveness of past administrations, it is to be hoped, with more firmness, better tact and broader sympathies in dealing with all interests in the present head of the Government, the evil may be arrested, and diminished, if not removed altogether so speedily. The progressive aspirations of the educated natives offer scarcely less hard a problem for the solution of our new Ruler. It will not do to ignore or repress them as only confined to a small minority. Progressive movements begin everywhere with a minority. It is blindness to ridicule the political aspirations of more active spirits of the country. They are the natural effects of the education which the Government has freely given to the people. It will not do to ignore public meetings, any more than to despise the Press. The wise ruler notes how far the opinions expressed are popular and genuine and worthy of respect. The beginnings of great movements may be derided as shams, in the same way as the Duke of Wellington called the Reform agitation a sham, but there is always an element of vitality in the popular voice which makes the shams of to-day the facts of to-morrow.

Let us not be misunderstood. In recommending sympathetic government, we mean no spurious sympathy. We plead not for classes but the country at large. We ask no privilege for natives but justice for all. A frank good will for all communities, sections,

interests, races and creeds, is what we advise. The ruler must never descend to the partizan.

#### OUR LEGISLATURES AND MUNICIPAL LEGISLATION.

INDIAN legislative mills, like similar machinery in other parts of the globe, have often been a subject of merriment to contemporary wits. The ephemeral character of the work turned out by them, has been the butt of ridicule. Artemus Ward's joke that Transatlantic legislatures meet in winter to amend the laws passed in summer, and meet again the next summer to reamend the work of the last winter, often holds true of the law-councils in this country. The only thing certain of our laws, is their uncertainty—their unfinality and ambiguity and obscurity. There is no sufficient reason, however, why this should be so. Our legislative arrangements are furnished on an elaborate and costly scale. There are legislative secretaries and deputy secretaries and legislative members and Advocates-General to put their heads together. To supply any possible deficiencies in their wisdom, they have the help and co-operation of a whole Council of official and nonofficial Solons. So little rest, again, have these Councils from year's end to year's end, as to tempt comparisons by no means complimentary to the dignity of their occupation. They are irreverently compared to mills and machinery, with the further taunt of the inferiority of their products in finish and quality. Nor is the taunt often without justice on its side. The "glorious confusion" of our laws, is proverbial. No sooner they fall from the legislative mills than they have to be tinkered again and again, till their homogeneous integrity is lost sight of in repeated over-layings of extraneous matter.

We have been led to this train of thinking, not at any recent manifestation of extra legislative zeal in the way of reforming and amending old statutes. There has not been much of this manifestation of late, and we were going one of these days to congratulate our law makers on the moderation which now characterized them. The occasion of our complaint as to the want of clearness and precision in our laws, is afforded by the reports which reach from all sides of municipal perplexities arising from the obscurity or incompleteness in the drafting of our municipal laws. These municipal laws, one should fancy, were to our legislatures as pastime after graver toils. Legislation for roads and busts could not involve intricacies and subtleties like more serious legislative business. All the same, however, are these tiny municipal enactments fruitful of the keenest controversies and the most perplexing situations. Not a few of our municipal scandals are directly traceable to the defective wording and the incomplete treatment of our municipal laws. At the present time, there is what the *Times of India* calls a deadlock in the Municipality of Bombay, and the highest legal authorities of that city are puzzling their brains over the interpretation of some sections relating to the Corporation's powers of control under the law over the proceedings of their chief executive officer called, under the Bombay laws, the Municipal Commissioner. No little embarrassment was felt only the other day here in Calcutta and also elsewhere, over the legality of the municipal grants for celebrating the Jubilee. The points raised still await authoritative settlement, which can possibly alone come from an amendment of the law with retrospective effect. A rather awkward difficulty lately

exercised the Calcutta Municipality in regard to the resignation of an officer of the Corporation, and a reference as usual to the Advocate-General had been made. But lawyers' opinions are sometimes more bewildering than the perplexities which they are meant to solve. At other times, they cleverly leave the main problem untouched amidst a long yarn of learned verbiage.

This of our Presidency Corporations. When these big bodies are so much at sea over the interpretation of the municipal law, the case of the more minor municipalities in the provinces can be better imagined than described. Since the scheme of local self-government has been introduced, the number of references made by them, or by the district authorities for them, for the opinion of Legal Remembrancers and Advocates-General, is something to make one gape with wonder. And each of such references, be it remembered, costs money, not less than Rs. 16 in the case of a Legal Remembrancer's opinion, and something more when the Advocate-General intervenes, all to be paid from the taxes of the people. But the expenditure involved is a consideration of minor consequence. The confusion and delay in business, the quarrels and party-strifes which hang round these vexed questions of the law, are disadvantages of a serious nature. These evil consequences of the law's uncertainty form by themselves no inconsiderable chapter of an unwritten history of the serio-comic aspect of local self-government.

#### THE SACRIFICE OF INDIA.\*

ACCORDING to this writer, India benefits by low silver, and accordingly he is opposed to all schemes for upsetting the existing order. To establish his position, he cites numerous authorities, both monometallists and bi-metallists—amongst others Mr. Barbour. He notices at length the late despatch of the Indian Government to the Secretary of State for India, and traverses the various grounds put forward, the principal of which are—that India loses on account of (1) the increase of her silver obligation for gold debts already incurred (2) the increasing silver cost of her home expenditure (3) the additional element of uncertainty introduced into Government finance and into the operations of commerce (4) the reduced value of the Government rupee securities and the impossibility of having further by means of rupee loans (5) and the disinclination of English capitalists to invest money in India; and the author proves that debt is amply covered; loss by exchange is to a great extent fictitious and where real, has been easily met; uncertainty can be tempered by foresight; borrowing in India has not ceased; and check to the flow of capital is a myth.

Our official currencywrights are not tired of urging that during the past 4 years 1882-3 to 1885-6, exports have not risen much, though the exchange has fallen about 11 per cent. But there is a flaw in the argument. The inference is not sustained by the fact. The figures cannot be accepted. There is a palpable error in including in the exports, such articles as opium and some others which are not affected by exchange. To be fair, the comparison ought to be strictly confined to the common productions of gold and silver currency countries, allowance at the same time being made for the largely increased local consumption of cotton, jute and other produce.

By the adoption of a bimetallic ratio of  $15\frac{1}{2}$  of silver to 1 of gold (corresponding to a price of about 60½d per ounce of silver), says the author, the price of silver will be raised by about 33 per cent (the present price being about 45d—September, 1886). The effect would be to increase in London the selling cost of Indian commodities by about 33 per cent. The buyers in London would naturally confine their purchases to the cheaper United States wheat, cotton, &c., and Indian export trade would be suddenly crippled. The Indian grower must therefore be content with a rupee price 33 per cent below that which he now obtains, while he will have to pay the same rents, taxes, and interests.

\* "The Sacrifice of India" (Silver Question). London, Effingham Wilson, Royal Exchange; Calcutta, Thacker Spink & Co. 1886.

To recoup the loss sustained by the Indian Government on account of the drafts of the Secretary of State, the writer recommends an import duty upon Manchester cotton goods, which, says the writer, would be just in principle and unobjectionable in its effect, besides having the special merit of eliciting some contribution to revenue from the Native States. If it were the concern of the Indian Government to protect English as against Indian manufacturers, an excise duty might also be levied upon local manufacturers of cotton goods and yarns and other articles.

The writer concludes his admirable treatise thus:—"Let it not be said that upon the altar of official convenience a great Government sacrificed a nation's welfare, nor that its world-distinguished civil officers bartered a people's good for the pottage of personal interest. Let not the future historian, while sorrowfully regarding jungle covered wastes of abandoned cornfields, and smokeless chimneys of silent mills, ask in regretful wonderment, 'Hath an enemy done this?' and receive the sad reply of an impoverished country, 'Alas, it was our familiar friend, our Government in whom we trusted!'"

The pamphlet shews much careful study of the silver question and penetration into the subject. We recommend it to those who have not closely followed the course of public opinion as to India's real interests in the matter, and specially to those who, led by Anglo-Indian agitators whose personal interests have suffered by the depreciation of silver, are advocating the adoption of bi-metallism as the panacea for all India's evils. We entirely agree with the writer as to the unwisdom of adopting any haphazard remedies that are proposed every now and then to cure the silver difficulty which will really do us greater mischief than good.

But we do not hold with him that low silver is the cause of the increased export from India. Not enquiring as to the real cause or causes of low silver in relation to gold, he is unable to state why low silver has not enhanced the prices of commodities in India. There is no doubt that low exchange and increased export from India have been synchronous for the last 15 or 20 years. But it does not follow, therefore, that the one is the cause of the other. Whether low exchange is the cause of increased export from India, or the increased export the cause of low exchange (by causing a general diminution in the price of Indian commodities abroad and thereby inducing a fall in the gold price of silver too, which is mainly used in India and has become almost an Indian commodity,) is a point yet to be decided. It may be also possible that both the one and the other—the increased export from India and the low exchange—are due to one and the same cause. The fact is silver has not alone fallen, but with commodities generally—specially with the Indian commodities abroad. But while the prices of commodities and wages in India maintain almost the same ratio to each other, wages in gold currency countries have risen very high in comparison to prices, thus shewing clearly that Indian labour has become depreciated in comparison to foreign labour. What is that circumstance which has thus led to this general depreciation of Indian labour abroad? It is from the solution of this question, we believe, that the real solution of the increased export and of the low exchange will follow.

#### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 29th March 1887.—Baboo Grish Chunder Sircar, Sub-Deputy Collector, Nelphamari, Rungpore, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Sreeram Moitra is appointed to act as Sub-Deputy Collector of Nelphamari, Rungpore, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Grish Chunder Sircar, or until further orders.

Baboo Bino Nath Dey, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore, is allowed leave for one month, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 15th instant, or such subsequent date, as he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Prosonno Coomar Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Silligoree, Darjeeling, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Upendra Chunder Mookerjee, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is transferred temporarily to Darjeeling, and is posted to Silligoree, *vice* Baboo Prosonno Coomar Dutt, on leave.

Mr. R. H. Wilson, Magistrate and Collector, Midnapore, is appointed to act as Commissioner of the Bardwan Division, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. J. Beames, or until further orders.

M. F. B. Taylor, c. s., has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of furlough for two months.

Mr. H. P. Peterson, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is transferred to Dacca, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Mr. F. J. Monahan, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Jajpore Cuttack, is transferred to the Sonthal Pergunnahs, and is posted to Jamtara in that district.

Mr. T. Norman, Magistrate and Collector, Mozufferpore, is allowed leave for two months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 25th instant, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. G. E. Manisty is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Mozufferpore, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. T. Norman, or until further orders.

JUDICIAL.—The 1st April 1887.—Baboo Moti Lal Sircar, Second Subordinate Judge, Dacca, is allowed leave for three months, under section 132, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 21st March last.

Baboo Poorna Chunder Shome, First Munsif of Kooshtea, Nuddea, is appointed to act as Second Subordinate Judge of Dacca, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Moti Lal Sircar, or until further orders.

The 2nd April 1887.—Baboo Ananta Ram Ghosh, Munsif of Hathazari, in the district of Chittagong, on leave, is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Gya, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sudder station, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Brijomohun Pershad, or until further orders.

The 5th April 1887.—Baboo Jogodiswar Gupta, First Munsif of Bagirhat in Jessore, is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Nuddea, to be ordinarily stationed at Kooshtea, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Poorna Chunder Shome, or until further orders.

Baboo Danda Dhari Biswas, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Jessore, to be ordinarily stationed at Bagirhat, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Jogodiswar Gupta, or until further orders.

Under section 35 of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1878 (an Act for the regulation of the Rural Police in the districts of Hazaribagh and Lohardugga), the Lieutenant-Governor appoints the Sub-divisional Officer of Giridih to perform the functions of a Deputy Commissioner under Part III of the said Act.

Baboo Dakshina Churun Mazumdar, B. L., is appointed temporarily to be an Additional Munsif in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, to be ordinarily stationed at Diamond Harbour.

Baboo Pramatha Nath Banerjee, First Subordinate Judge, Mymensingh, is allowed leave for two months, under section 73-1 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 2nd proximo.

Baboo Atul Chunder Ghose, Additional Subordinate Judge, Mymensingh, is appointed to act as First Subordinate Judge of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Pramatha Nath Banerjee, or until further orders, on being relieved of his present appointment as Additional Subordinate Judge of Dacca.

Baboo Hemango Chunder Bose, Second Munsif of Kaligunge, Dacca, at present acting as Additional Subordinate Judge of Mymensingh, will continue in his present appointment during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Atul Chunder Ghose, or until further orders.

GRANT OF LEAVE TO MUNSIF.—The 1st April 1887.—Baboo Mohendro Lal Goswami, Munsif of Fenny, in the district of Noakhally, is allowed leave for three months, under sections 128 and 141, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 22nd December 1886 and on the 24th February 1887.

## Official Paper.

MAURITIUS.—AS TO THE RELIGIOUS QUESTION IN MAURITIUS. TRANSMITTING DESPATCHES OF SIR ARTHUR GORDON AND SIR ARTHUR PHAYRE ON THE SUBJECT.

SIR JOHN POPE HENNESSY, K.C.M.G., TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE EDWARD STANHOPE, M.P.

Mauritius, 28th December 1886.

Sir,—In your letter of instructions to Sir Hercules Robinson of the 29th of September 1886, sent to me, for my information, in your despatch No. 77 of the same date, no mention is made of religion; nothing is said about any enquiry into religious differences or how far the Governor could be charged with creating religious animosity. Nevertheless a large number of witnesses were questioned by Sir Hercules Robinson on this subject.

2. As you will see by the minutes of evidence, he sometimes put leading questions to the witnesses implying that I had created religious differences.

3. Most of those witnesses were the minority of English officials who had brought charges against me of unduly favouring the Mauritian population, of supporting, as one of them, Mr. Clifford Mayer, put it, "the general population"; a batch of witnesses who were all Protestants except Mr. Didier, who though born in France, described himself as "belonging to the English party," and, though born a Roman Catholic, "bringing up" (as he states in his evidence) "his children Protestants."

4. My immediate predecessor described Mauritius in his despatch No. 181 of the 18th of April 1881 as "this Roman Catholic Colony."

5. According to the last census, the Roman Catholics number 108,000 and the Protestants 8,000,—the former number including nearly all the landed proprietors and professional men.

6. In 1883, I found eight official members in the Council of Government: of these, two were Roman Catholics and six were Protestants.

7. When I opened the new Council in 1886, there were twelve official members, and, of these, three were Roman Catholics and nine were Protestants.

8. What could have been the system of Government that gave this preponderance, in the higher appointments, to those who professed the religion of the minority? How has this system affected the mutual attitude of the two religions? How has it affected the relations of the Roman Catholics to the Government?

9. I shall not answer those questions myself, but I shall call official witnesses not less impartial, perhaps, and, in positions not less responsible, than the witnesses examined by the Royal Commissioner.

10. In the same month in which he tendered his resignation of the Governorship of Mauritius, Sir Arthur Gordon put on record his experience of the system by which the local government attempted to Anglicize and Proselytize the Colony, and in what way some Mauritians were taught to attain to the higher appointments. I enclose for facility of reference a copy of his despatch No. 108 of the 4th of April, 1874, on this subject.

11. In summing up the information he had obtained in the course of his administration, Sir Arthur Gordon said:—

"On the conquest of the Island, the maintenance of the Roman Catholic religion was guaranteed to the inhabitants by the articles of capitulation. For many years subsequently, the fact that the Island was Roman Catholic in religion was fully recognized,—a liberal and tolerant spirit pervaded the administration,—and, so far as I can learn, a good understanding existed between the clergy of the two churches.

"After a time, however, it seems to have been thought expedient by the Local Government to attempt to Anglicize and Protestantize the Island. The gentle pressure of the manifest convenience of its adoption, would, I believe, have done much to promote the use of English, and constant association with those of another faith would probably have insensibly loosened the bonds of the Roman Catholic creed; but it was a great mistake to attempt to effect these objects by more direct means. A more intolerant spirit naturally succeeded. On the one hand, the Roman Catholic Religion, the French language, and French manners were cherished as badges of Nationality: on the other, the Roman Catholic Church, instead of being recognised as the prevailing religion of the country, was treated as a tolerated sect, to be repressed and checked,—the government schools, if not made, at least became, engines of proselytism, and converts to Protestantism attained a favor which those who adhered to their religion looked for in vain. In connection with this, it is worth remarking that almost all the natives of the Island who hold any considerable office under Government are Protestant members of Roman Catholic families. I do not say their change of religion has gained them their appointments, but I do not hesitate to say they would not have attained them, had they retained their original faith."

12. He then describes, as an illustration, what took place in the Seychelles, a dependency of Mauritius, some years before: and he adds:—

"It is difficult to credit such bigotry as that which I have described, as existing little more than twenty years ago; but the same spirit is still at work here. Everything allowed to the Roman Catholic church is, by not a few, looked on as a concession for which they ought to be very grateful; and the facts are ignored that it is practically the church of the People, and that we bound ourselves to maintain it at the conquest of the Island."

13. Sir Arthur Gordon was succeeded by Sir Arthur Phayre. He retired from the administration of Mauritius in December 1878, and, like his predecessor, he also summed up for the information of Her Majesty's Government the experience he had gained, in four years, of the state of religious parties and the attitude of the higher Government officials to the Roman Catholics.

14. In his despatch of the 5th of December 1878, Sir Arthur Phayre said:—

"I cannot fully express my views on this point (the supposed hostility of a certain Official to the Roman Catholics) without referring generally to what may be called the state of parties, Catholic and Protestant, in this Island. On my first arrival it struck me that there was a very strong anti-catholic bias among the members of the Civil Service in the higher appointments who were Protestants. This was shown in various ways in points of administration: sometimes unconsciously, as if the usual official practice, was being followed; and in some—as the distribution of the amount payable to missionary clergymen under the despatch of the Secretary of State, and even payments under Ordinance 54 of 1844 in what appeared to me not merely prejudice but downright injustice. I only refer to these matters in order to explain as regards Mr. ———, that if he had any bias against Roman Catholics, he only participated in the feeling which existed among his superior officers."

....."Though I am of opinion that the action of what is called the "Protestant party" in Mauritius has shewn great prejudice on their part, and a repressive tendency (resulting I presume from all the higher Government Officials being Protestants) towards Catholics, as far as that could be exercised, I do not mean to state that the prejudice is all on one side. Certainly the Catholics have been hitherto very moderate and have rather suffered aggression in silence than made any outward show of resistance. It appears, however, that the "Union Catholique" has determined to attack the principle on which the Government Schools are based. This will be seen in the "Rapport sur les écoles primaires" issued by the Council of the "Union" in October last. I beg to enclose a printed copy thereof. This is not the time to remark thereon, but, if I were to remain in Mauritius, I should resist all attempts to alter the present system of government schools; and I should recommend greater liberality to be shown in the support of aided schools. These latter have in fact not been fairly dealt with, and the time has come when they should receive better treatment."

15. Some of the men described by Sir Arthur Phayre as being animated by a strong anti-catholic bias were among the English officials who were questioned by Sir Hercules Robinson as to my policy and the causes of religious antagonism in Mauritius. Their answers seemed to indicate that the same spirit which Sir Arthur Gordon saw at work in Mauritius in 1874 and Sir Arthur Phayre, in 1878, is still here.

16. When in November 1882, I was offered the honour of having my name submitted to the Queen for the Government of Mauritius, I, at first, respectfully declined the honour. I knew that the Colony laboured under political and religious grievances. I was not unwilling to face the task of dealing with such grievances but I entertained some doubt whether in the peculiar circumstances of Mauritius, I should receive from the Colonial Department that confidence and support, without which Reforms in a Crown Colony are extremely difficult. I was induced, however, to undertake the work; and perhaps, the political grievances have been to some slight extent remedied. But I must frankly confess that as regards the religious grievances, they remain much the same and the consequent religious antagonism is the same as described by Sir Arthur Gordon and Sir Arthur Phayre.

17. Those who take an interest in seeing Her Majesty's Colonies justly administered, and administered in accordance with the wants and sympathies of the colonial community, will no doubt be surprised to learn that in the latter quarter of the 19th century so discreditable a tale of Colonial Government was recorded as that set forth in the passages I have quoted from the despatches of my two distinguished predecessors.

18. Secretaries of State and other public men who make speeches about the Colonies refer, with well founded satisfaction, to the mode in which Downing Street rules the Colonies with responsible Government. Such colonies are in fact allowed to govern themselves. But amidst this general congratulation, it is little suspected that a Colony like Mauritius, a Colony of the French race and the Roman Catholic religion, has been governed with the object of Anglicizing and Proselytizing the community and that this has been done, as Sir Arthur Gordon points out, in deliberate violation of the articles on which the inhabitants capitulated in 1810.

19. It will probably be asked how it comes to pass that such a shocking story as Sir Arthur Gordon revealed to Downing street could be so long concealed? Was his despatch brought to the notice of Her Majesty's Government? Was it even read by the Secretary of State to whom it was addressed? Those who know the enormous and increasing pressure of business in Downing Street and the inadequacy of the clerical staff to deal properly with one fourth of it, may answer these questions.

20. On the other hand, what was my duty on discovering the truth? In 1883, I officially reported that the system of State education in Mauritius was a system of Proselytism. That system came out and dry from Downing Street years before. The reply to my despatch was that I should not touch it.

21. Over and over again I pointed to what Sir Arthur Gordon and Sir Arthur Phayre had denounced with respect to the higher appointments of the Civil Service. I showed that it was idle to talk of trying to make the Colonies loyal, of inducing them to provide money and men for their defence as long as injustice of that kind was permitted. On this subject Lord Derby acted on my recommendations; and, before he left office, one or two important changes were made in the higher appointments. But with those few exceptions the descriptions given by Sir Arthur Gordon and Sir Arthur Phayre of the holders of those appointments, remain correct to this day.

22. It is only the simple truth to say that the loyal feeling thus encouraged by Lord Derby was neutralized by the unhappy appointment made by his successor, of a Colonial Secretary and Lieutenant-Governor with little sympathy for the race or the religion of the Mauritians.

23. But whatever special difficulty or prejudice I may have had to encounter in trying to get the just views of Sir Arthur Gordon

and Sir Arthur Phayre carried out, there was one of the higher appointments, not mentioned by them, but with which it was necessary for me to deal. Lord Derby had asked me in 1885 to report on any remedial measures that I thought were necessary to redress the grievances of the French race in Mauritius. In writing to his successor, on the 6th of August 1885, I said:

....."The main cause of the widespread discontent I found here was due to the appointment of Englishmen to be Bishops of Port Louis. Since the British occupation every Roman Catholic Bishop has been an Englishman. This was one reason why the Catholic inhabitants believed that the Government had determined to Anglicize this community in spite of the terms of the capitulation which guaranteed the preservation of the Religion and Customs of the French race.

"There is no doubt the sending here of Englishmen as Roman Catholic Bishops had a political object. So far it was unjust and a mistake. To make it worse some of the Englishmen so selected have been openly hostile to the French race.

"Considering that the salaries of the Roman Catholic Bishops come from the rate-payers and that all their fees are contributed solely by people of the French race, it was not fair that their well-known wishes on the subject should be entirely ignored.

....."Any Englishman fit to be a Roman Catholic Bishop will be employed in his own country: if an Englishman is sent to British India or to the Colonies as a Roman Catholic Bishop, he is probably of an inferior stamp, and hence amongst the seventy-nine Roman Catholic Bishops in Her Majesty's Colonies, and in India, I only know of two Englishmen, Dr. Scarisbrick and Dr. .... "of ...., and both of them have had serious disputes with their flock which the Holy See has been called upon to consider. On the other hand, Archbishop Gonin of Trinidad is a Creole of Mauritius, beloved by his flock and in entire accord with the Holy See as well as with the local government.

"Some years before I came to Mauritius, and on more than one occasion grave charges were sent to Rome against Bishop Scarisbrick by those who really represented the Catholic community. This year, the "Union Catholique" transmitted to the Propaganda a most serious indictment against Dr. Scarisbrick's management of the Diocese. The Bishop at first stated that the document emanated only from a few. In reply, the Council of the Society stated that it was practically the unanimous voice of the whole Catholic community, and out of nineteen members of the Council of the Catholic Union, eighteen put their signatures to a duplicate of the document, the nineteenth member being absent from illness. In short, it is only the simple truth to say that Bishop Scarisbrick has never been in accord with his flock, that he has no sympathy with them.

"Of course as long as such a prelate is maintained here for a political purpose, there will be an increase of discontent."

24. Bishop Scarisbrick's evidence before Sir Hercules Robinson is a remarkable commentary on this. He describes the very kind reception he got in the Colonial Department in London; how cheerfully the authorities there promised to continue their friendly support to him; in short, how easily he vindicated himself in Downing Street.

25. But he gives a different account of his reception in Rome. He said: "I had the greatest difficulty in clearing my character in Rome." A little further on in his evidence, he again said, speaking of his interviews with the authorities in Rome:--

"I have not been able to clear myself or to put things in their true light."

A few days after he had made that statement, he got the Commissioner's permission to add to the short-hand writer's transcript, the words "without difficulty."

26. Such a contrast tells its own tale, a more grievous one perhaps for the Roman Catholics of Mauritius than the narrative of Sir Arthur Gordon.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

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## The Week.

A NATIVE of Ceylon has lately been travelling in Europe where he attracted more than ordinary attention by his expenditure. This was no other than Mr. CHARLES DESOYSA, the Rothschild of Ceylon. He expended like a prince for the reception of the Prince of Wales, during His Royal Highness' visit to the Island. RUSSELL'S Diary of the Royal Tour contains a fine view of Mr. DE SOYSA'S magnificent mansion. It appears that before leaving the British capital, Mr. CHARLES DE SOYSA placed no less than Rs. 10,000 in the hands of Mr. CHARLES G. ARBUTHNOT for distribution between the Hospitals of London. So unostentatious is Mr. DE SOYSA'S charity that his most intimate friends did not know of this princely outlay till the appearance last month of a letter in the Ceylon *Observer*. The Searcher of hearts will doubtless reward Mr. DESOYSA and the Earthly Fountain of Honour too will cool and refresh him. Meanwhile, we commend the example to our countrymen who, under various evil influences, are clearly falling off from their old virtues of true hospitality and benevolence and assuming a miserable ostentation.

THE Gaekwar, who has lately been on a trip to Ceylon, has scarcely supported the credit of Indian liberality in our Emerald Isle. He left only Rs. 150 to be distributed as Baksheesh among all the Policemen who attended on him. It were more princely to ignore the poor fellows altogether.

THE Colonial Office has ordered the dismantling of the batteries in the fort at Galle. The guns are to be dismounted and placed in the ordnance store for sending to Trincomalie, Colombo or Woolwich.

LORD AND LADY DUFFERIN reached Simla yesterday.

TIDINGS have at last been received at Rome of the safety of the steamer *Venezia*.

THE P. and O. steamer *Tasmania*, on her way home, stranded on the night of Saturday the 16th instant on the Monachi Rocks off Corsica. The women and children have been landed. Assistance has been sent to the two hundred passengers still remaining at the time of the despatch of the telegram on board. A later telegram reports the safe landing of all the passengers at Marseilles on the 21st, by the Company's steamer *Chusan*, which was sent to Ajaccio for them.

EXCITING scenes are being enacted in the House of Commons during the debate on the Crimes Bill. Names are freely called, and even the intervention of the Speaker fails to restore quiet. The other day, Colonel SANDERSON, Conservative Member for the North Division of Armagh, called the Parnellites "the associates of well-known murderers," on which Mr. HEALY got up and called him a liar. The Speaker was appealed to in vain, for Mr. HEALY refused to withdraw the expression. Mr. SEXTON called upon Colonel SANDERSON to retract his accusation, and called him a cowardly liar into the bargain. This led to hot and bitter discussion, which ended, however, with both Mr. SEXTON and Colonel SANDERSON retracting their expressions. For Mr. HEALY'S persistent refusal to withdraw the expression used by him, he was suspended by 118 against 52 votes.

THE "mashers" and other *budmashes* in the House of Commons have made the most of the protracted sittings of the House. We are told:—

"Some amusing stories are afloat with regard to the all-night sitting which seems to have caused a temporary misunderstanding in the families of several hon. members. A learned gentleman heroically stayed at the House during the whole night, and only started for his home at about nine o'clock in the morning. Before he arrived, however, the Conservative Whips sent after him a telegraphic message summoning him back to Westminster, an important division being expected. The telegram fell into the hands of the hon. gentleman's wife, who seems to have been quite dismayed at the discovery that her husband was not, as she had supposed, safely under the charge of the Whips at Westminster. The lady started at once for the House, where she appeared in the lobby with the telegram in her hand to demand an explanation. Happily the Whips were able to give her satisfactory assurances with regard to the whereabouts of her spouse. There were other cases which did not end so comfortably, and in which these early morning telegrams of the Whips brought serious discomfiture to certain members who had made the all-night sitting a pretext for passing the time in festivity at their club. Their remonstrances with the senders of the telegrams were naturally energetic, and henceforth some caution will probably be observed in such delicate matters."

AN Act of Parliament will be necessary to enable the Duke of Connaught to be at the celebration of the English Jubilee without resigning his Indian command, and Sir J. GORST will introduce a Bill for the purpose.

A STATEMENT is going the round to the effect that, out of a total of 34,000 newspapers published in the world, the English language claims 16,500; the German, 7,800; the French, 3,850; and the Spanish, 1,000. These are mournful figures for France, showing, if not absolute decay at least a relative disparity from the far more accelerated progress in education and civilization made, in recent years, by the Germans at home and abroad. This, added to the slow decline in population observable in France, for a long series of years from before the last War—to say nothing of the dismemberment in consequence of that event—reduces the chances of French success in the competition, whether for peace or war, with Germany. This is a pressing subject for French publicists to ponder upon. Perhaps, the *Petit Bongo* will have something to say on it.

DR. TYNDALL has resigned the professorship of Natural Philosophy at the Royal Institution which he held since 1853. He commenced with "Air and Water" and ended with Light ("THOMAS YOUNG and the wave theory of light" being the subject of his last lecture.) Would that he could approach the last subject in the spirit of the Great Puritan republican, and exclaim

Hail! holy Light! Offspring of Heaven, first-born,

Or of the Eternal coeternal beam.

May I express thee unblamed?

God grant that this devoted man of science may yet find the light which alone gives meaning.

THE Police have discovered in several villas at Pargolovo, a summer resort in the outskirts of St. Petersburg, stores of dynamite and apparatus for the manufacture of bombs.

SEVERAL publicans in London from the East-end have been fined in sums varying from £5 to £25, for adding water and sugar to their beer. The milkmen of Calcutta are, however, free to add any quantity of water to their milk.



CAPTAIN LANG, R. N., has been permitted by the Admiralty Lords to accept command of the Chinese Fleet now forming. He had been chief naval adviser to the Celestial Government for seven years.

THE young wife of a Kippax labourer is being tried for bigamy. The charge is admitted and the reason for the simultaneous second choice is stated to be the violence of the first husband and consequent unhappiness. SARAH ANN NICHOLSON, for such is her name, is no RUKHMAI and there is no Defence Committee to save her from the penalties of the law.

AT Baulegne, in the Department of the Ardèche, a fountain which would not for the past 16 years give out a drop of water, suddenly began playing, the water issuing in voluminous jets. The return of water is attributed to the earthquake of the 23rd February.

AN ichthyological curiosity is reported. A mammoth fish was lately caught in the Tay in the shape of a salmon weighing 70 lbs. It was exhibited at Groves's, in Bond Street, London. The highest weight recorded is 83 lbs.

HERE is a development of Woman's Rights :—

"At Dover, a woman named Bishop was charged with violently assaulting her husband. The latter, who is a seaman, appeared in court with his head bandaged and his face very extensively bruised. The man reprimanded his wife for frequenting public-houses, when she attacked him with a saucepan, a fire shovel, and a clock. The man was taken to the hospital and had his head dressed, but on his return his wife tore off the bandages. She was sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment without the option of a fine."

GOVERNOR BOURKE has been raised to the peerage and he takes the title of Lord CONNEMARA.

THE phenomenon of dreams is not the least of the phenomena of human life. The marvel of dream-life has fascinated the imagination from the earliest times. The old Greeks cut the matter short in their Puranic way by saying that dreams descend from Zeus. The whole Eastern world, as its literature, has been busy in the interpretation of dreams; but to little purpose. The following information will be interesting to our readers :—

"Dr. Delaunay, a French observer, in a communication to the Biological Society of Paris, states certain conclusions of his with reference to the production of dreams by the manner in which one lies while sleeping. The fact of disagreeable dreams while one lies on his back is explained by the connection which is known to exist between the organs of sensation and the posterior part of the brain. The most general method of lying, perhaps, is on the right side and this appears to be also the most natural method, for many persons object to lying upon the side of the heart, which, it has been more than once asserted, should have free action during sleep. Nevertheless, Dr. Delaunay's statements hardly harmonize with this opinion. When one sleeps upon his right side—that is to say, upon the right side of the brain—one's dreams have marked and rather unpleasant characteristics. These characteristics, however, are essentially those which enter into the popular definition of dreams. One's dreams are apt to be illogical, absurd, childish, uncertain, incoherent, full of vivacity and exaggeration. Dreams which come from sleeping on the right side are, in short, simply deceptions. They bring to the mind very old and faint remembrances and they are often accompanied by night mares. Dr. Delaunay points out that sleepers frequently compose verse or rhythmical language while they are lying on their right side; this verse, though at times correct enough, is absolutely without sense. The moral faculties are then at work, and the intellectual faculties are absent. On the other hand, when a person slumbers on his left side his brains are not only less absurd—they may also be intelligent. They are, as a rule, connected with recent things not with reminiscences."

• Here is matter enough for inquiry. And the matter ought to be cleared up. For every body dreams and can verify the assertions, or the greater part of them. We shall be glad to receive our readers' communications on the subject.

• A TERRIBLE fire is reported to have laid half the town of Pegu in ashes.

THE West Patent Cotton Press building, at Delhi, together with a number of huts in the vicinity, have been consumed by fire, the damage being valued at Rs. 30,000.

TWO lacs of rupees worth of stores were destroyed by the fire which broke out in the Rawalpindi Arsenal on the 13th instant.

THE Nizam of Hyderabad is giving close personal attention to details of administration since the departure of Sir SALAR JUNG, and, according to the *Deccan Times*, has shown no small aptitude for business. He goes through all the Secretaries' boxes himself, giving the necessary orders on the papers, and returning them quickly. That is evidently a *communiqué*, and worth no more than one. He is so fond of work that when he left lately on a short sporting excursion, a number of these boxes were taken with him. As to the Minister, a telegram in the papers says :—

"Owing to continued ill-health, Sir Salar Jung has resigned his high office of Minister, being unable to bear the strain of the work. It is believed that his Highness will accept his resignation, and treat him with liberality, as his family has rendered such signal service to the State. Sir Salar will go to the hills or to England to recruit his health, and be absent for some six months. It is hoped that the time is not very far distant when he may be asked to resume office. Speculations as to his successor are, of course, rife. It will probably be one of the four following nobles, Khoorsheed Jah, Basher-ood-Doulah, the Vikar-ool-Umra, or the Mooneer-ool-Moolk."

THE *Liberal* writes—

"His Highness the Maharajah of Cooch Behar, accompanied by the Maharani and three children, attended by Mr. R. Bignell his private Secretary and two Aid-i-Camps (*sic*) left Calcutta for England *en route* Bombay. Babus Nirmal Chundra Sen and Profulla Chundra Sen, the second and third sons of our Minister, have also accompanied them for the purpose of completing their education. The party embarked on board P & O Company's *S. S. Ganges* which left the shores of Bombay on the 8th instant. We think this is the first instance of an Indian Princess visiting Europe."

The two sons of the late Babu KESHUB CHUNDER SEN who have accompanied the Maharajah and Maharani of Cooch Behar to England, propose to compete, one for the Indian Civil Service, and the other for the Indian Medical Service.

AT the Fort Police Court, Bombay, Mr. P. RYAN sentenced one GUNPUT ANANDRAO to one month's hard labor, for offering an indecent book for sale. He was neither the printer nor author.

MR. E. C. BARRY OLLIVANT has been reappointed Municipal Commissioner at Bombay. Notwithstanding the differences which lately broke out between the Corporation and their executive head, Mr. OLLIVANT'S influence over the members is unquestioned, and he is held in great esteem for his abilities and his experience of the duties of his office.

THE *Times of India* writes strongly about the necessity of reforming the English post office arrangements, and hopes that the Colonial conference which is now sitting in London may do something practical in this direction. Our contemporary mentions some of the anomalies of the present system, which are glaring enough in all conscience :—

"A letter from India to London costs  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., but one from India to Chicago *via* London—nearly double the distance—requires only stampage to the value of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. France and Germany can send letters to Bombay by British steamers subsidized by the British Government for  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each; British merchants have to pay double. The English Government receives  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per half ounce for the carriage of the letters of foreign countries by costly steamer service all the way to China; it pays the same sum for the transmission of English letters by train from Calais to Brindisi. Merchants in London are actually combining to send their letters for India, China, and the East generally in bulk to France every Friday morning, to be posted there so as to save the difference between  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. So British merchants are despatching their samples in bulk to Belgium to be posted back to England at  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each, half the cost had they been posted at home, and for the heavy work of delivering these the British Post Office, on the principle that each country keeps its own postage, does not receive one single farthing. These arrangements are so absurdly one-sided that we can only wonder how they were ever entered into. The Postmaster General has been fairly cornered by his questioners, and has had to admit the facts. But he weakly attempts to bolster up the position of affairs by such infirm arguments that the ocean mail steamer subsidies cost the British Government so much that we must even be content to carry the letters of foreign countries at a loss and be thankful for the paltry remuneration of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per half ounce. But does it not strike Mr. Raikes that France and Germany must get their letters to the East, and, if they will not consent to pay for their carriage at a reasonable rate, they should be left to find the means of transmission themselves? Are we to continue to charge discriminating rates of an exceptionally favourable nature to our foreign competitors in trade, and then tax our own subjects to make up the deficiency? The International Postal Convention is responsible for these arrangements. But the agreement was never intended to be unalterable as the laws of the Medes and the Persians. The conditions and terms have proved to be most unsatisfactory and unfair, and the time seems to have arrived when they should be amended or the whole arrangement terminated."



THE Moplahs are our Malays. Here is the latest case of a Moplah run amok.

"A terrible tragedy, in which a member of that turbulent and unruly race, the Moplahs, was concerned, is reported by the Cochin paper. It appears that a dispute arose at Badagarra, a place south of Tellicherry, about some family property. The matter was adjudicated upon, and as the Moplah in possession refused to give up the property, the intervention of the law was necessitated. For this purpose the Sheristadar Magistrate repaired to the spot, and was taking some deposition, when the infuriated Moplah rushed upon him with an unsheathed knife in his hand. The Magistrate's faithful peon rushed forward to save his master, and, in doing so, sacrificed his own life, for the Moplah with one cut severed the unfortunate man's head from the body. The Sheristadar in the meantime made himself scarce, and the murderer, disappointed of his prey, proceeded to the house of the Sheristadar's brother, where he found that official's sister-in-law sitting in the verandah nursing an infant. Both mother and child were immediately attacked and decapitated by the Moplah, who afterwards set fire to the house. More than a hundred people went to the spot, but no one had the courage to arrest the murderer and incendiary. He was at large for a week, vowing vengeance on the Sheristadar. During this time armed constables arrived at the place, where in a mosque the object of their search took shelter. Seeing no hopes of extricating himself from his perilous position he applied his knife to his own throat, and thus cheated the gallows of one of its legitimate victims."

The coward!

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THE basis of a scheme for the proposed neutralization of the Suez Canal towards which negotiations between France and England are proceeding, is expected to be an acknowledgment of the freedom of the Powers to traverse the Canal at all times, coupled with the condition that no fortification of its banks will be allowed. An international commission will superintend the execution of the agreement.

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THERE is a tempest in the tea-pot of Norkhali. The subscribers to the Jubilee Fund met for the disposal of their little balance of Rs. 4000 and voted the sum over to the local "caterers" of amusement calling themselves—we don't know by what right beyond a vicious example—the Royal Theatre Company, "for making a *pucca* place of amusement with a Public Library attached to it and the Hall and the Library to be considered public." And the prudes and misanthropes are up in arms against such base use of public money! The rash men who longed for a permanent theatre at such a place remote from the centres of civilisation have been soundly chastised!

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NEXT dry season, will be begun the Faridpore extension of the Eastern Bengal State Railway, to the great advantage of commerce and the convenience of the people. The journey to Dacca will be shortened by three hours.

A State Railway has also been sanctioned to connect Dacca and Chittagong.

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THE Germans are again to the fore—

"A new quarterly periodical for the reviewing of Oriental literature has been brought out in Vienna, under the editorship of Professors G. Buhler, Sanscrit Professor at the Vienna University, Karabacek, D. H. Müller, J. Müller, and L. Reinisch. It is entitled *Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde des Morgenlandes*. The articles treating of British India are to be written in English, the others in German."

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IN May 1888, there will, in Glasgow, be an International Exhibition of Industry, Science and Art.

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THE Transcaspian Railway section from Charjui on the Oxus to Bokhara, is nearing completion.

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THE latest eccentricity is a lady of Malavern who keeps 78 dogs, in separate pens, in a large field, and feeds them on the best meat.

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THE Maharaja of Mysore has gone to Ooty and summers there.

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DECREES of the Civil and Revenue Courts of Mysore may now be executed in the Civil and Military station of Bangalore as decrees of the Courts of that station.

THE famous son-in-law maintains his luck. The University has fallen on evil days and is at the mercy of glib tongues and easy hearts. "A very German Milton indeed!" exclaimed COLERIDGE, when he heard KLOPSTOCK called "the German Milton." After the late exposure in the Punjab and the recent proceedings at Calcutta, we had better be prepared to hear our Universities characterised as "very Indian institutions and no mistake."

..

THE Unionists of Uttarpara have received a check in their march for purification of their town. For all their pains to purge the municipal atmosphere of its impurities, they have been snubbed by the Local Government and been told to employ themselves more usefully in other ways and not trouble themselves with municipal management which, from all official reports, is in efficient keeping.

..

THE third Criminal Sessions of the High Court begins on Monday, the 25th, Mr. Justice MACPHERSON presiding.

## Editorial Notes.

MR. COTTON is to act both as Chairman of the Corporation and Commissioner of Police, during the absence on leave of Sir HENRY HARRISON, and on the same pay and allowances. To mark their appreciation of his services during the CUNNINGHAM-THOMPSON raid on the Corporation, the Commissioners, as a special case, last Thursday, voted Rs. 2,500 as the acting allowance for the Chairman, Rs. 1,000 in addition being for the other post. Mr. COTTON, as Secretary of the Board of Revenue, draws Rs. 2,500 only. We hope he will use his windfall with liberality, and his popularity for the good of the town.

AT the suggestion of their Chairman elect, the Commissioners, at the same meeting, by 28 against 25, came to the conclusion that it was unfair not to have paid their Engineer and his assistant bonus for the laying of the new 48 inch main for the Extension Water Works. They did not however agree as to the amount and the principle of determination and referred the matter to the Water Supply Committee.

The Engineer claims Rs. 84,308, or 5 per cent on the whole cost Rs. 16,86,170. He says he has saved the Corporation Rs. 5,08,977-4-2 by laying the pipes departmentally at Rs. 2,49,729-11-16, whereas, it would have cost at least Rs. 7,58,707, if given out on contract. The calculations are Mr. KIMBER'S—out of the depths of his professional rather than moral consciousness. For, there is no knowing what the contractors would have charged for laying the main as it has been laid. The Government of Lord DUFFERIN would do well to apply to the Corporation of Calcutta for the loan of the services of Mr. JAMES KIMBER, C. E., to control the Financial Department of the Government of India. We may then not only be spared the Income Tax but may be sure of other reliefs, and many improvements.

THE annual meeting of the Senate of the Calcutta University, held on Saturday last, was very largely attended, Sir ALFRED CROFT being in the chair. The first business was to adopt the recommendation of the Syndicate "a scheme for encouraging and assisting translations and critical editions of the early vernacular texts belonging to the provinces subject to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal." This recommendation was moved by the Chairman and seconded by Raja PEARY MOHUN MOOKERJEE. Dr. RAJENDRALALA MITRA, however, opposed it on the ground that the scheme fell outside the objects of the University as laid down in its charter. This legal objection prevailed with a majority of the members present, and the motion was negatived, the amendment named by the doctor, *viz.*, "that the subject be referred back to the Syndicate with the view of ascertaining how far the Syndicate is in a position to devote the funds of the University to the publication of Bengali and Hindi works totally unconnected with the scheme of education" was adopted.

The next business was to consider the alterations recommended by the Syndicate in regard to the minimum marks required for passing the Entrance Examination. We have already informed our readers what

these alterations are, and it will now be sufficient to say that the alterations were adopted without opposition.

Dr. P. K. ROY was confirmed Registrar for a term of two years from 1st May next.

MR. Justice WILSON has obtained two months' privilege leave from 22nd June next. He is about our best Judge, and the country will look forward with anxious interest to his safe return in increased health and vigour.

MR. H. M. DURAND—lucky son of a disappointed father—has returned and rejoined as Foreign Secretary. Now that poor TUCKAJI RAO is gone, we hope Mr. DURAND will forgive and forget—his father's quarrels.

SAMARKAND is preferred to Tashkend, as the future residence of the Russian Governor-General of Turkestan. That is a politic move. The City of TAMERLANE as the head-quarters of the Southern Asian Empire of Russia will lend it *prestige*.

THEY have opened a school in London for training journalists. We want one badly here, to repress the tendency which, existing in all countries, is advancing at a daily quickened pace in this, to take to journalism for want of any other. The institution should have the authority to grant certificates, as the Board of Trade grants certificates for the mercantile marine service. The candidates for admission need not have matriculated at any University, but must show that they can talk grammatically and are familiar with history, the principles of political economy, and the elements of morals, literature and the arts and the sciences, pure and mixed. This is to be ascertained by examination *viva voce*. They must be able to recognise a Raja from an ordinary Rajput, a Rayyet from a mere ragamuffin, a Mahratta from any other Marwari.

THIS is going round the press:—

"We begin the publication of the *Rocay Mountain Cyclone* with some phew diphiculties in the way. The type phounders phrom whom we bought our ouphit phor this printing ophphice phailed to supply us with any ephs or cays, and it will be phour or phive week bephore we can get any. The mistaque was not phound out till a day or two ago. We have ordered the missing letters, and will have to get along without them till they come. We don't lique the loox ov this variety ov spelling any better than our readers, but mistax will happen in the best regulated phamilies and iph the ph's and c's and x's and q's hold out we shall ceep (sound the c hard) the *Cyclone* whirling aphter a phashion till the sorts arrive. It is no joque to us—it's a serious aphphair.—*Rocky Mountain Cyclone*."

Our "American Cousins" are so given to literary white lying and the manufacture of marvels that one can not be sure of one's ground in dealing with their testimony. If the above be a creation, it is very ingenious—better than Artemus Ward. But there is no inherent improbability in the situation, and if there may be a real newspaper rejoicing in the name of *Cyclone*, it may well experience the typographical difficulty represented in the extract. The manner of facing it is characteristic. The "poor Indian" of the East would have waited for the arrival of his "founts" and cursed his Gods in the mean time. The Indian, by the way, is up to a shrewd guess on occasions. Is it possible that the journalist of the "backwoods" resorted to this device to veil his ignorance, till he had leisure sufficient to master the mysteries of the spelling-book?

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills*.—Ever Useful. The afflicted by illness should look their diseases fully in the face, and at once seek a remedy for them. A short search will convince the most sceptical that these noble medicaments have afforded ease, comfort, and oftentimes complete recovery, to the most tortured sufferers. The Ointment will cure all descriptions of sores, wounds, bad legs, sprains, eruptions, erysipelas, rheumatism, gout, and skin affections. The Pills never fail in correcting and strengthening the stomach, and in restoring a deranged liver to a wholesome condition, in rousing torpid kidneys to increase their secretion, and in re-establishing the natural healthy activity of the bowels. Holloway's are the remedies for complaints of all classes of society.

THE germs of our modern improvements are usually to be traced to the past. Yet what large measures of time have been consumed before any efficient valuable discovery has been made and specially before it has been utilised for human comfort! Most of the arts of science are very modern indeed. Look at gas-burning. The phenomenon of the emanations of the mud in the bed of old ponds and wells igniting at the presentation of a lighted candle, was known long ages before the introduction of coal gas light. We read in an account going round the Press:—

The first actual application of gas to lighting purposes took place in England in the year 1792, when Mr. Wilian Murdoch constructed an apparatus for lighting his house and office at Redruth, Cornwall. So little was the invention understood and believed in by those who had not seen it in use, that even great and wise men laughed at the idea.

Is it possible that enlightened England so scornful towards backward and conservative nations, was so barbarous not a hundred years ago? The writer does not leave us at the mercy of a vague general statement but goes to particulars.

How could there be a light without a wick? said a member of Parliament when the subject was brought before the House. Sir Humphrey Davy ridiculed the idea of lighting towns by gas and asked one of the projectors if he meant to take the dome of St. Paul's for a gas meter.

So much for the experts! The wider experience of life, however, does not save public men from the same folly.

When the House of Commons was lighted by gas the architect imagined that the gas ran on fire through the pipes, and therefore insisted on their being placed several inches from the wall for fear of the building taking fire. The members might be observed carefully touching the pipes with their gloved hands, and wondering why they did not burn. The first shop lighted in London by this new method was Mr. Ackerman's in the Strand, in 1810; and one lady of rank was so delighted with the brilliancy of the gas lamp on the counter that she asked to be allowed to take it home in her carriage.

Brothers in demerit if not in merit, we are in the same boat with our European fellowsubjects, all other differences notwithstanding. The same vein of narrowness and absurdity makes the whole world kin. There is not much to choose between these White senators, most of them loaded with philosophy and languages from Oxford or the science of Cambridge, feeling cautiously the gas pipes, lest they scalded their hands, and the unlettered Sepoys in 1857, making it their first point, after breaking out in mutiny, to cut open the wiring of the telegraphic lines in order to see the hollow through which messages—in the shape of compressed letters, doubtless—were forced. After that, our Anglo-Indian friends might perhaps somewhat put up with some of our barbarisms, seeing they are civilized, if quite, only since yesterday. And, instead of forcing any of their views or ways on us, they might perhaps let us reform ourselves.

EUROPEANS make wry faces—or rather wrenched jaws at the names of Indians, forgetting, inexcusably for educated men, that if either people have a grievance in that behalf, both have. For our own part, as champion of our country, we do but remind them of the interesting personal nomenclature of the races inhabiting Central Northern Europe—and they blush. We remember poking fun at them in respect of an interesting creature, in fact, a famous beauty, of the musical and theatrical world, proud of her prodigious unpronounceable Polish patronymic. Our editorial was largely quoted and noised about. Not to mention others, the *Petit Bengali* translated it and virtually admitted the justice of our remark. But though we thus easily enough turn the table upon our sneering "chaffers," within our heart of hearts we confess ourself ill at ease. If the facts are exhaustively brought out and fairly marshalled, it would be difficult to say on which side the advantage lies. If Slavonic nomenclature is frightful, Dravidian is not a whit behind. Some of the names of streets in South India seem nightmare fantasies rather than legitimate efforts of sober nomenclature. For crowding of consonants, whether in local or personal designation, the Poles and Cossacks will ever maintain their unenviable preeminence, but in mere number of syllables and in length our countrymen are not to be easily beat. Of course, in the nett result—absurdity of effect—both are at par. We at any rate are painfully reminded of our hasty amusement at Europe's expense, when we hear the interminable unmusicality of our fair ones.

Such are our reflections at reading that the First Prince of Travancore—the Heir Apparent—has espoused a Miss Uedakaykurupum. These Uedakaykurupums of Trichoor are the Gunnings of Malabar famous for their beauty. But how wofully are they handicapped!

We hope the enlightened ruler of Travancore will see the advisableness of relieving beauty of such fearful labels. Men may carry any burden, but women never!

"A little before 8 P. M. the guests who had been entertained at a sumptuous feast, and the Palace Priests, assembled in the hall of the palace. The ceremony opened with the Senior Raneer presenting the bride with a beautiful lace cloth. The Prince took his seat on a white cloth spread over a handsome rich carpet to the right of his Royal aunt, when the bride was conducted to his presence by a near kinswoman of hers. With a respectful obeisance, the bride presented a silk cloth to Her Highness the senior Raneer and another to the Prince and then stood before the Royal bridegroom. The Prince then gave her a rich *Pithambar* and a cloth. Thereupon one of the Kurupus in attendance placed upon her hands a big jug and a salver and conferred upon her the title of Pana Pillay. Presents were next distributed to the officers of the Maha Rajah's Palace in attendance and to Mr. Shungara Menon, B. A. brother of the newly married Ammachee."

And is that all the marriage? Is that the rule in high life down Malabar? Surely, the twice-born go through all the prescribed rites of the Sacrament.

THE last eight or ten days have been more than usually notorious for ugly personal accidents. Mr. J. R. MAPLES, Agent of the Calcutta Tramways Company, yesterday met with one. Riding back from the Company's horse *depôt* on the Gun Foundry Road between Chitpore and Cossipore, his horse shied, apparently frightened at something, and brought himself and his rider to the ground. He was removed to the *depôt* where he lay in an insensible state. News being sent to the office at Bhowanipore, the next European on the establishment immediately took Dr. MACLEOD to the Northern *depôt*, where the patient was examined as well as practicable without disturbing him. It was suspected that a rib is broken. Possibly there has been other internal injury besides, if, as we hear, the patient is bleeding from the bowels. He is in good hands, but great anxiety is felt. Mr. MAPLES is well-spoken of by the natives. His loss would be a calamity to the Company.

HERE is a sad telegram from Madras:—

Last night (April 22) a pair of horses belonging to Lieutenant Sullivan, son of the Hon'ble Sullivan, bolted with a brougham from the beach. Mrs. Sullivan being in the carriage, jumped out, and fell on her head, fracturing her skull and dying immediately. The horses were pulled up after running two miles further.

THE weather has been severe and ominous. From an early hour after day-break it begins to be hot, before noon the hot winds commence and keep the field all day, in the evening till a late hour it is oppressively sultry, with a sense of suffocation from rarification of air.

The mornings for the last three or four days have been foggy. This morning Calcutta was enveloped in a thick haze such as is not always to be seen in mid-winter, which continued till a late hour. This is regarded as a bad sign, as not only resulting in heat during the day, but also presaging public ill health.

SEVERAL accidents have in consequence occurred in different quarters. The latest and not the least noticeable took place at the Bengal Office to a Mahomedan officer. Moonshee AHMED, Translator in the Chief Secretary's department, in descending from the tram car and stepping into the Government Buildings, got a sun-stroke. He received instant help and was carried to a room of the record department on the ground floor. The Registrar, Mr. COUNSELL, hearing of it, hastened down to the scene. Seeing the dangerous situation of the patient, he at once sought the assistance of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Dr. COWIE, who came and ordered ice to be applied on the head and prescribed brandy and gave other directions. He recovered consciousness but was lying quietly on his side at half past 2 O'clock.

THOUGH not directly attributable to the weather, not the least alarm of the occurrences of the last few days was the accident that befell the veteran publicist who conducts the *Statesman*. Strange that it has not yet appeared in the papers. Verily, we are leading a worse than life in London where nobody hears or cares about his next-door neighbour in the same flat. Here we have the editor of a great daily newspaper escaping death by a hair's breadth, if he has yet truly escaped, and nobody knows anything of it. The victim himself may be silent from modesty or indifference, but there is no excuse for the other journals ignoring the occurrence. Yet there is no deliberate passing over or indifference. They simply do not know. Hence we say, life in Calcutta is out-Londoning London. We heard a vague rumour and on inquiry learnt the particulars. Mr. KNIGHT had lost his

balance on the slippery marble of the bath-room and fallen on the tub and received some fearful wounds on several parts of the body. The cuts went deep to the bone, though fortunately there were no fractures of either kind. There was great anxiety in consequence, in the case of a man of his years, but the native force of his constitution soon reassured him and his family. He is in a fair way of recovery.

WHAT a escape is ours *there*! India cannot willingly let that man depart who is one of her few—too few, alas!—champions stout and sturdy. Yet Fate might be irresistible. Accidents will occur to the bravest and best, as in the most well-regulated households. The Knight of the pen might have given us the slip before we were aware of it. For our own part, when we heard of the accident, we involuntarily repeated to ourselves—

Men understand a plough or wheel,  
A draper's wand, a sail or keel;  
But pens are things which high and great  
And popes and kings agree to hate;

And which the crowd,  
Earth-born, earth-bowed,  
Can scarcely know  
For constant load of toil and woe.

But yet, may be, a century hence,  
Men who can see with keener sense,  
May chance to dig thy relics cold;  
And looking big, may cry "Behold!"

The pen of Might!  
That loved the Right!"

ANOTHER Calcutta patriarch has fallen! Babu MADAN MOHAN CHATTERJEE of Jorasanko in this town died on Thursday at an advanced age. He was the elder brother of the late CHUNDER MOHAN CHATTERJEE and nephew (sister's son) of the famous Baboo DWARKA NATH TAGORE. He was a man of a fine understanding and much force of character with a capacity for business. He resisted not only all the blandishments of DWARKANATH'S table but also the long continued persuasion, not to say the persecutions, of such an uncle, and remained orthodox to the last. How he saved from ruin the estate of the late Baboo GOPAL LAL TAGORE—father of Babu KALIKISSEN TAGORE—is one of the city's traditions. His sons died before him, but he has left several grandsons one of whom is a retired solicitor, another (Babu AMARENDRA NATH CHATTERJEE) is a wellknown pleader and public speaker, another, Babu DHIRENDRA NATH is in the service of the Town Corporation and one of its most hard working and honourable *employés* and another Mr. CHATTERJEE of WILSON CHATTERJEE, solicitors.

THE Mahomedans of Patna held a meeting for expressing their natural congratulations on the appointment to the *musnud* of the province of one who had passed the best portion of his official life in their part of the country. Appointed to Behar as an Assistant Magistrate, Sir STEUART BAYLEY rose to be its official head—the local chief—and, with the exception of an interval of change to the Secretariat, he stuck to it, until he finally left it for higher offices. He ruled the province long and in succession as Commissioner.

But why harp on the fact? What good in insisting on it? It may be excusable in our friends of Behar to be forcibly reminded of all the old days he passed among them in their Province. But it is indelicate to remind him. There is always an element of unpleasantness in raking up antecedents showing that the object of your attentions was not formerly so big. There is indeed every reason for confining your memories, if you must cherish them, to your own bosoms.

We may tell our friends that Sir STEUART BAYLEY will not thank them for their pains. Their proclaiming his Behari connections does not tend to his advantage. It adds not to his prestige. It is no presumption in favour of his reign. It will not do for him to be Behari only—he must be par-Bengali, in the wider sense of political geography. They make him out provincial when he strives to be catholic.

He could not possibly forget Behar, and he was sure to show his kindness in that direction. This indiscreet activity of his *protégés* will paralyse his desires.

WE never knew that our unsophisticated little notice of the new Lieutenant-Governor's method of attending to his work in due form at the Bengal Downing Street, was charged with so much execution. Indeed, just as the point of a joke lies in the ear that receives rather than in the tongue that cracks it, so the nervousness—the self-conscious fear—of the Lords of the Bureau has given our paragraph all its emphasis, has supplied the place of wit, and completed the *vraisemblance*. The almost random shot has hit. Our half dozen lines have told with considerable effect in so much as to provoke a reply. So powerful for mischief was our pinch of verbal dynamite deemed that the great gods who give tongue to the thoughts of Jove and would lend him their thoughts too on the first opportunity, that they apparently held a conclave. They have certainly issued a manifesto. A *communiqué* from official dons can appear only in a semi-official organ, and accordingly we have the strange spectacle of the *Englishman*, which, ever since the days of the Ilbert Bill, has noticed us by ignoring our existence altogether, stooping to bandy words with us. It manages to save its dignity too—by not taking our name in vain. Good pious old soul!

Indeed, our contemporary is careful of its dignity from the outset, thus—

"The little scraps of news with which our native contemporaries are favouring us about our new Lieutenant-Governor must be infinitely diverting to him, if they ever happen to catch his eye."

If they ever happen to catch his eye! The stale trick, unworthy of a foe conscious of his prowess! The hypocrisy is self-evident. No doubt Secretaries and journalists of a particular type would like to keep the native papers out of gubernatorial ken, but is there really a doubt as to whether they reach the head of the Government? If so, is it possible that Secretaries to Government should feel the call to answer those native papers, and that the *Englishman* should lend itself to so useless an operation?

Our "graphic little picture" is thus disposed of—

"The sober fact is that on Saturday last Sir Stuart Bayley sat in his room at the Bengal Office for some hours, as Sir Rivers Thompson frequently did after a sitting of the Council, a proceeding very much to the satisfaction of such of the Secretaries..."

The "sober fact," no doubt, whittles the proportions of the departure we ventured to read in the Lieutenant-Governor's holding office on Saturday last. And no doubt the wish is father to the thought. But herein the scribes reckon without their host—or say, at once, their Chief. Our ancestors have left a maxim that one fact outweighs a hundred arguments, and we prefer to answer in the logic of facts. From the *Englishman* it would seem as if the Lieutenant-Governor went for the nonce to the Secretariat on last Saturday and remained there a few hours, and that being there, business was brought to him. But Sir STEUART BAYLEY has repeated his visit. Today he was at the Bengal office too, staying the whole day and doing business. What is the meaning of that? At any rate, that does not look like the visit of an Amateur Casual of a Lieutenant-Governor. We wonder what will be the suggestion now!

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1887.

### LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

THE last words of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON, in his Legislative Council, were spoken in vindication of the principles of Local Self-Government. The legislative work of his Government related chiefly to this subject, while the task of bringing the new system into operation in the towns as well as the districts, afforded Sir RIVERS the fullest opportunities of judging how far that system was likely to take root in the country. If anybody therefore is entitled to speak with authority on the subject, it is the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. The Bengal Municipal Act III (B. C.) of 1884, came into operation on the 1st August 1884, and was in force in 133 Municipalities in these Provinces during the year 1885-86. The Bengal Local Self-Government Act III of 1885 first came into force in sixteen of the more advanced districts, on the 1st October 1886, but Sir RIVERS has

given the last proof of his confidence in the ability of the people at large to manage their local affairs by extending its operation to the remaining districts with effect from this month.

In the last Bengal Administration report for 1885-86, Sir RIVERS THOMPSON records: "The elective system has proved a success, and the new bodies of Municipal Commissioners acquitted themselves creditably in the performance of their honorary duties." In the Burdwan Division, the working of the municipalities is pronounced to have been good, and "the Committees as a body fully appreciated the responsibilities they had taken upon themselves." In Nuddea of the Presidency Division, the Act did not work so well as in other districts. There was too much of party spirit notably in the Santipore municipality. It is noteworthy that this should be the case in an intellectual district like that of Nuddea. Mr. HOPKINS, the Magistrate of the district, however, may, for aught we know, be to some extent responsible for the result. For, the fact is notorious that he never took kindly to the system, and from some of his high-handed proceedings which have come to light, he seems to have failed to realize his own position under the law in relation to the honorary committees. In the 24-Pergunnahs, the Magistrate remarks as follows:—"On the whole the new Commissioners appear to me to have done their work well. Too much time no doubt is often spent in oratorical exhibitions, and petty jealousies and impatience of control by an Honorary Chairman, who is no longer a Government official, give rise to occasional dissensions and interfere with a Committee's usefulness. In the end, however, the election scheme will, I think, prove a success. Meetings are well attended and are held more regularly than formerly, and the items of business are freely and often very warmly discussed."

The Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division does not seem to be favorably disposed towards the new scheme, on the working of which he remarks:—

"Among the elective municipalities, the Municipal Commissioners of Bogra and Sirajgunge, and then those of Pubna, have as a body done best. In Rampore Beaulah there were differences of opinion, and troublesome references in consequence. In Sherpur the Municipal Commissioners as a body misbehaved grossly towards their Chairman owing to jealousy and party spirit, the matter being reported to Government at the time. In Nattore jealousy of the official Vice-Chairman was shown by some Commissioners, who, on one occasion recorded objectionable remarks, which, however, were repudiated by others. In all the elective municipalities, except Dinagore and Rungpore (which are under official Chairmen) there was, as was only to be expected, at first an insufficient regard for the requirements of the law, and jealousy of the Chairman was evinced as also a desire to prevent his exercising his powers independently of the Commissioners in meeting as much as possible."

The Commissioner of the Dacca Division says:—

"The working of so many municipalities under elected Chairmen, and generally the management of the towns by the representatives of the rate payers, is the most interesting feature of the year's municipal history. It would not be safe yet to venture on an opinion as to how the new system will work; but I am inclined to think that it will be more successful in the small towns than in those of large size and with a large population. Dacca, for instance, has an admirable Chairman, and the constitution of the Municipality is as good as could be expected; but I am not quite satisfied with the state of affairs. There are conflicting interests, and the Commissioners, (elected ones specially) are in considerable awe of their constituents. However, there is no reason yet for despair, and time may remove the obstacles to improvement which now exist."

In view of the more or less hesitating opinions expressed by the Divisional Commissioners as to the working of the new system, it behoves the elected representatives of the people to be extremely careful that they do not endanger the institution by their indiscretions and petty differences. That there have been too many exhibitions of party spirit and mutual jealousy, cannot be denied. We regret them as much as possible, but at the same time we are of opinion that too much stress should not be placed on them.

They are of the nature of inevitable evils, which will attend the beginning of Local Self-Government, whenever a beginning is made at any place. But the people will soon learn to outlive them. They will quarrel themselves into harmony. That has been the case everywhere else, and that is the lesson of history. As to injury to public business arising in consequence of these dissensions, that is of scarcely any appreciable magnitude. On the one hand, while they are inevitable, on the other, they are, from their nature, of temporary duration, and soon pass away. We trust Sir STEUART BAYLEY will not only keep in tact the policy of the new scheme, but extend it gradually, as the fitness of the people for the administration of local affairs is more and more developed.

#### EDUCATIONAL BACKWARDNESS OF THE UNITED PROVINCES.

UPON any one who has the good of our hardy brethren of the United Provinces at heart the question must from time to time force itself—Why is education at such a low ebb there? Is it the innate conservatism and the consequent instinctive abhorrence of everything foreign of our brethren that is at the root of the evil? And if so, what have the local Government done towards removing the stumbling-block in the way of their progress, and how far their efforts in this direction have been crowned with success? A discussion of these questions will be of special interest at this moment when the question of a University for the United Provinces is on the tapis.

It goes without saying that the local Government have not only done absolutely nothing to remove the obstacles, but have on the other hand considerably added to them. This is a serious charge we are preferring against, above all, the Government of Sir ALFRED LYALL—one who has spent the best years of his life in the cultivation of literature, but we can substantiate it. In an evil hour for the country, did that arch-enemy of high education, Sir GEORGE COUPER, inaugurate an educational scheme whose evils even the literary Sir ALFRED, to his eternal discredit, has not as yet been able to undo, or rather has never set himself in earnest to undo. We yet hope better counsels will prevail, and the new-fledged council would be the precursor of a series of reforms with education justly at its head.

To begin with, the Middle-class examination is a distinctly retrograde step. Its existence in the United Provinces at this hour of day, uninfluenced as they were by the surrounding waves of changes like the Sleepy Hollow, is, to say the least, an anachronism and a mistake. It certainly mars the efficiency of work. From the very nature of things, it could not be otherwise. Young men are taught all through in Urdu or Hindi, except one solitary book in English, and that even in a most perfunctory manner. The result of course is the realisation of the saying, old as the everlasting hills,—“As you shall sow, so you will reap.” Wonder of wonders! they are required to work in English and to hold their own with the Bengal students in the Calcutta University—let us say—Entrance examination whose medium of examination is English. We have advisedly confined ourselves to the Entrance examination, for it is very seldom that Hindustanis compete for higher honors. Whenever they do—and as we said it is very seldom—they are exceptions, which go to prove the rule. Add to this the fact, the simple sober fact, that the Middle-class passed candidates are preferred to Calcutta B. A.'s, and you will have a tolerably fair idea

of the state of things there. If this is not laying the axe at the root of high education, we do not know what is. Our brethren have now learnt to resent insult, and, if they are wise in their generation, they should repudiate it by every possible means. They can see through the trick that is being played upon them—of educating them in Urdu or Hindi, while filling all the high and lucrative posts with English-educated aliens. We are not against Oriental education; far from it. On the other hand, we are no blind admirers of it. But in view of the present impoverished condition of India, and of the policy of the greatest good of the greatest number, we cannot but oppose its continuance. We cannot do aught else when we see that no good and much evil results therefrom. Scholar and philosopher as Sir ALFRED LYALL is, his first and foremost duty should have been, upon assuming the reins of office, not only to abolish this useless examination but to reverse the whole educational policy of Sir GEORGE COUPER, conceived and carried out as it was by a very narrow and unstatesmanlike spirit. We affirm what we said in a recent issue of *Reis and Rayyet*, that English education alone would have justified the presence of the English in our midst. Say the *Pioneer* to the contrary what it may, we make no hesitation in reiterating our belief that the profound peace—the firm Reign of law that obtains from one end of the country to the other, has been in no small measure rendered an easy task by English education. Notwithstanding our Allahabad contemporary's mischievous comparison of the National Congress with the Irish Nationalist Societies, it is possible only under the ægis of British rule and under the solvent influence of English education. That education is the one thing that has made even the mild Hindus entertain a strong sense of duty, after centuries of repression and retrogression under old-World forms of Government. Freedom of thought and freedom of speech are two essential attributes of a peaceful Government. These again have been rendered possible by English education. The greatest good that the English have conferred upon us is, of course, English education, and wherever it is not, the English have not made their hold sufficiently strong. Has not the Government of Sir ALFRED LYALL read or has it read to no purpose the celebrated speech of MACAULAY of 10th July, 1833? Or, is it the fear of awakening ambition in the breast of the Hindustanis that keeps it from introducing any form of education as distinguished from the sham of it that is now in vogue? While the surrounding provinces are having their ideas reformed, manners chastened, thoughts and aspirations elevated, by what has grown to be our *lingua franca*, is it possible, can it be expected, that they will remain perfectly uninfluenced by the changes that are being wrought on all sides? To us, the idea seems as absurd as was King Canute's attempt to check the rising waves.

In a recent lecture delivered by Mr. MOZUMDAR at Lucknow, he very pertinently remarked that the United Provinces were the life of Hinduism. By tradition and by nature, the Hindu mind is so constituted that it abhors anything that comes in a foreign garb, be it good or bad. This in itself would have been sufficient to justify the Government to hold out to the Hindustanis the highest prizes and the best institutions so as to attract the people to the cultivation of English. Is it possible that in these days of increasing popularity of homœopathy, the Government wished to try the efficacy of the principle,



*similia similibus curantur* and increased schooling fees in consequence. Anyone who has an average thinking power can realise how strong a deterrent the increase of schooling fees serves to be, coupled with economy, retrenchment in every department of State, and the Income tax staring in the face. It is but a truism to say that English educated men have the monopoly of all high posts; while the uneducated Hindustanis have been relegated to the mean drudgeries of copyists, munshis, and the like. Between this fact and their unfortunate land system, they are the poorest creatures upon the face of the earth. It is not strange, then, that the unnecessary increase of the fees proves to be the last straw upon the camel's back. If the Government were in earnest desirous of extending to them the boon of education, it should certainly have first tried to popularise education before being ambitious of establishing a separate University. We think a fraction of money about to be wasted on the University would be profitably spent if employed in popularising education there in the shape of medals and scholarships. The natural aversion of the Hindustanis from foreign education, the apathy of the Government towards a reform in these directions as testified by the increase of the schooling-fees and the like—these are barriers more insurmountable than all the ideal barriers that the Calcutta University is credited with offering. So long as these barriers are allowed to stand, so long as they continue to disgrace British rule, it is idle to expect any good will come out of the spasmodic efforts of the Government to establish Universities and Legislative Councils. They will necessarily do more harm than good.

### LATEST TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, April 23.

In the House of Lords last night, the Irish Land Bill was read a second time without a division.

BERLIN, April 22.

The German police have arrested M. Schnaebell, an employé of the French Government, for treason, in pursuance of the judge's order.

PARIS, April 22.

The evidence regarding the arrest of M. Schnaebell is clashing. The Germans assert that he was arrested in German territory, while the French declare to the contrary. The representative of the German Government here, has informed M. Flourens, Minister for Foreign Affairs, that the grounds upon which M. Schnaebell was arrested are uncertain, but the German Government, in concert with France, will enquire into the matter. The Paris Press are discussing the affair in a calm manner.

The Bourse is agitated, and Rentes have fallen  $1\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. to-day.

### APPRECIATION OF GOLD.\*

By appreciation of gold may be understood that a given weight of gold will now purchase more of most articles of consumption than it would have purchased in years gone by. It may also suggest that gold has become scarce and therefore dear. Prices may have fallen, because (1) the supply of other articles has developed with a great rapidity in comparison to gold in consequence of modern inventions affecting production or distribution; (2) or the supply of gold has fallen away, so that a scarcity of money available for exchange has arisen; (3) or else, on account of both of these causes. As compared with silver, whereas in 1850, the stock of silver was estimated at 32 times in weight that of gold, it is now supposed to be about 19 times; and were their prices regulated merely by the stocks of the two metals at different periods, the

price of silver should now be 102 pence per ounce instead of 43 pence.

The trade of the world, says Mr. Fowler, is at least four times as great as it was in 1850, and the mere weight of goods moved is six times as great as it then was. The increased quantity of money necessary for exchange of commodities has been partly supplied by the discovery of great supplies of gold and silver. Unlike the articles produced for consumption which are quickly used up and done with, gold and silver accumulate by reason of their durability, and an increase of stock is comparatively a permanent addition made to the fund available for exchanges. But the increased necessity for money is also partly met with by a great extension of credit. At least, 99 per cent. of the real business of Great Britain and Ireland is now effected by instruments of credit, including Bank Notes of all sorts; and apart from Bank Notes, the vast mass of important exchanges takes effect without the use of any 'money' whatever. As a final result, we have got more coin and bullion in circulation and in reserve in the Banks and Treasuries of Europe and the United States than at any former period. The interest paid on money but for short periods has been lower than at any recent period, though, at the same time, the prices are lower than those of 1850.

Mr. Fowler shews that though in the Bank of France about 44 per cent. of transactions are effected by means of notes and cash, and in the London Banks only 3 per cent. are thus effected, the prices in the two countries vary little. It follows therefore that the general movements of prices depend less on the use of money than on supply and demand of goods.

He then mentions various cases of low prices and shews that there is no law as to the fall. The fall appears to be spasmodic and uncertain, which it should not be if it be caused by a continuous and increasing scarcity of the means of effecting exchanges. The causes of such low prices, according to him, are (1) increased competition both in Europe and America and even in the East; (2) increased competition in England due to inventions which have either increased production or lessened its cost or have caused a great saving in the use of the capital. The development of steam power has increased the available power of man to six times what it was in 1850. Wages have greatly increased, but the cost of doing a given amount of work has greatly decreased, so that five men can now do the work which would have demanded the labor of eight men in 1850. The increased home competition is also partly due to the establishment of Limited Companies which once started work without profit or at a loss.

Reduced cost of distribution both by land and water since 1850, has also lowered prices. In Europe, there are now eight times as many miles of railway as there was in 1850, and, taking the whole world quite eleven times as many, it has been estimated that the cost of carriage has been reduced to one sixth of what it was before. The railways have also greatly extended the area of production and opened new sources of supply. The combined capacity of British sailing and steam ships rose from 9,975,000 tons in 1875 to 14,646,000 tons in 1883. The carrying capacity of each steamer has been enormously increased in recent years by inventions which reduce the quantity of coal to each ton of cargo and thus leave more room for cargo. A few years ago, it required eighteen tons of coal per day to move a steamer of 1200 tons burden; now ten tons per day will move a steamer of 2600 tons.

Another indirect economy arises from the reduction of the time occupied in voyages; so that the stock of goods now on water in course of transit, is only about one half of what used to be thus locked up. So also the telegraph has reduced the cost considerably, by removing the necessity of retaining large stocks of goods at any of the great centres.

Finally, Mr. Fowler criticises in detail the bimetallic theory. Its advocates hold that its effect would be to restore prices to a higher level in England than at present. (1) Supposing the supply of silver should increase rapidly, and that of gold should fall off, the

\* *Appreciation of Gold.* An Essay. By William Fowler, L. L. B. (Fellow of University College, London). Capel and Company, Limited, London, Paris, New York, and Melbourne. 1886.



result would clearly be that silver would remain in England, and gold would be exported, being more valuable as merchandise than as coin. (2). Supposing the supply of silver to fall off, silver would buy more than gold and would be exported, while gold as overvalued would remain in England after more or less unnecessary confusion. (3). Even supposing that both metals remained in use, the permanent causes of the scarcity of money in relation to the commodities, *i. e.*, of money in relation to increased production and trade, would continue, and the momentary abundance would be succeeded quickly by the same relative scarcity as before. The future course of prices will be regulated by the aggregate annual production of the two metals, which is much at the same ratio to their total stocks in use, as the production of the one metal to the stock of that metal only. (4). Another difficulty would arise in fixing the proportion between gold and silver, the actual value of silver at present being less than 20 to 1; but the old ratio, so much recommended being 15½ to 1. The result would be the simultaneous efflux and influx from all countries and confusion in all monetary dealings.

The pamphlet is specially suited for those who are clamouring for bimetallism on the ground that gold has become scarce and therefore dear in comparison to commodities. That there is appreciation of gold, no one doubts, and Mr. Fowler has clearly shewn that this appreciation is wholly accounted for by the cheaper production and distribution of commodities due chiefly to an increased employment of steam power and other inventions. We recommend a perusal of the book to all those who want to study the causes of the present monetary difficulties.

We do not think Mr. Fowler to be correct in inferring, from the low rates of interest and discount, an abundance of gold in European markets. The money return for 'money' is not changed either by an appreciation or depreciation. But when there is an appreciation of gold chiefly due to a cheaper production and distribution, the circulation of coins for the purpose of ordinary trades and commerce becomes naturally reduced, causing thereby a greater total saving and a larger reserve seeking investment and which reduces the rates of interest and discount. It should be borne in mind that money is always partly in circulation and partly held in reserve, and that the reserve has no effect on the price of commodities. Thus there may be a greater reserve of money with a diminished circulation, the total quantity of money remaining the same.

We are also afraid Mr. Fowler has not hit the right nail on the head. The great important fact that always weighs in the commercial world is *cheapness*. What *might* is in the physical and political world, that *cheapness* is in the commercial world. It is the comparative cheapness which governs the market everywhere, and no body pays a farthing more to buy a commodity than what he is obliged to pay. Progress in arts and sciences has no doubt made things cheap in Europe. But is the case the same with India? Here, the prices of the raw commodities remain much the same—a result of an increasing cost due to a more extensive cultivation counteracted by a cheaper freight from the interior to the sea-board. But still now is it that India competes in the foreign markets with greater and greater success every succeeding year in such commodities as wheat, seeds, &c? The freight by sea from Bombay to the United Kingdom has fallen, no doubt, but so too from the other foreign countries to the United Kingdom. India has apparently gained no advantage over her foreign rivals in this respect, she has rather lost her ground. But still it is the *cheapness* which causes Indian commodities to be sold more largely in the foreign markets than those of other countries. One fact stares in our face which only is capable of explaining this mystery *i. e.*, the heavy foreign obligations of India. The effect of this heavy obligation is such that it has reduced the price-level and wages-level in India all round; in comparison to those prevailing in foreign countries. In our ordinary daily intercourse, we find that a needy man is always cheap. He must become cheap *volens volens*. Will as such partly disap-

pears in him. So also a nation becomes needy through heavy foreign obligations and indebtedness and therefore cheap in foreign estimation. Is a fact more simple and plain than this? The people abroad advocate bimetallism and a greater use of silver for coinage purposes, which, we suspect, is partly due to their mistaken analogy drawn from India. They say India has a silver-coinage and her foreign exports are increasing, whereas ours are languishing, we having given preference to a gold currency. This is their argument which Mr. Fowler has not touched at all.

### MONGHYR.

*Jamalporre, the 18th April 1887.*

The hot weather has now fairly set in. We must suffer the amenities of life during these successive grilling months. The westerly hot wind has now commenced blowing almost daily, especially in the afternoon, causing the people to feel much from the scorching heat. In fact it is almost unbearable to be out on the road during mid-day.

A few days ago, the native portion of the town named Noyagaon, was the seat of terror, the dreadful disease cholera of a virulent type having raised furiously. The victims this year were the Bengalee residents of the place, (both male and female). There were altogether about half a dozen fatal cases. Many had to quit their quarters with their families and all their belongings, and to take their abode in Monghyr and elsewhere, through fear. I am now happy to be able to inform your readers that the fell disease has since abated. The cause of this outbreak, I am told, is attributable to the bad sanitary arrangements, more especially the drainage. I understand this state of things has already reached the ears of the municipal authorities here. The residents of this part of the town are greatly inconvenienced for want of *mehtars* to bale out the water from cess pools adjoining their houses. Hitherto, that service was reserved for Municipal Mehtars, (that is the Sirkari ones) as regards the main drains, &c., but of late, I hear, the order has been countermanded. Heaven knows the cause of it. Many a rate payer had to receive summonses for the accumulation of dirty sewage and the result was nothing but heavy fines. Notwithstanding, they had to remove the same at their own expense. Cannot the ratepayers expect this trivial concession from the Municipality? The people are fairly entitled to it, paying taxes a great deal more in comparison with the taxes levied on the pucca buildings in the Metropolis, and other towns. The major portion of the houses situated in native quarters, are mud-walled and tile-roofed.

Mr. D. W. Campbell, Loco-Superintendent, has left this for Calcutta to act for Sir Bradford Leslie, Agent, proceeded to Europe on furlough. Mr. J. Strachan, District Loco-Superintendent, Allahabad, has come here as Loco-Superintendent.

The local sadhu (ascetic) attached to Durga-i-sthan (Thakurbari) of Jamalporre, is now in trouble, having been implicated in a charge of kidnapping.

A Bengali young Brohmochari, named Upendra Chandra Vidyaratna, (one of the pupils of the renowned Bissoodhanunda Swami of Benares) was amongst us for the last 2 days, he gave two lectures in Bengali in our local Harisava on Faith and Prayer and made a great stir among the audience.

The construction of Reservoir close to the Hills of which mention was made by me sometime last year, and for which the E. I. R. Company had to meet a large outlay, is making great progress, and is expected to be ready before the rains. It affords a pleasant aspect to spectators, being situated at the foot of the Hills. This gigantic reservoir on completion will without the least shadow of doubt render material help to the E. I. R. Company's working and remove a long felt desideratum, especially in the hot months, when wells and tanks are as a rule dry.

### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 31st March 1887.—Baboo Hem Chunder Mookerjee, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, is appointed to be Temporary Deputy Collector in charge of the Khas Tehsil Office at Contai, in Midnapore, *vice* Baboo Soshi Bhusan Sen, transferred.

The 14th April 1887.—Baboo Mohendro Nath Gupta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakholly, is allowed leave for four days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 10th February 1887.

Baboo Purna Chunder Bysack, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serajgunge, Pubna, is allowed leave for one month, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code.

Kumar Ramendra Krishna, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hooghly, on leave, is transferred to Pubna, and is posted to Serajgunge in that district, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Purna Chunder Bysack, or until further orders.

The 15th April 1887.—Mr. E. B. Harris, c. s., reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 1st instant.

Mr. C. H. Vowell, c. s., reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 1st instant.

The 16th April 1887.—Baboo Basanta Krishna Bose, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bankoora, is transferred to Darjeeling, and is posted to Silligoree, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Prosonna Coomar Dutt, or until further orders.

This cancels the order of the 5th instant, transferring Baboo Upendra Chunder Mookerjee, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, to Darjeeling and posting him to Silligoree.

Baboo Bejoy Madhub Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Ranaghat, Nuddca, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Radha Madhub Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to Nuddca, and is appointed to have charge of the Ranaghat sub-division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Bejoy Madhub Mookerjee, or until further orders.

Baboo Mon Mohan Roy, B. A., is appointed to act, until further orders, as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, and is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Bankoora.

Baboo Kalipodo Chuckerbutty, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Kutubdea, Chittagong, and Baboo Haripodo Ghosh, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Chittagong Hill Tracts, are appointed to be Tehsildars in the district of Chittagong.

The 19th April 1887.—In modification of the order dated the 18th March 1887, Mr. E. W. Collin is appointed to perform the duties of a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector in the district of Mozufferpore, in addition to his special work connected with the survey and settlement in that district.

Baboo Rai Churn Ghose, Officiating Personal Assistant to the Commissioner, Chota Nagpore Division, is allowed leave for fifteen days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Mr. R. F. Rampini, District and Sessions Judge, Burdwan, is allowed leave for one month, under the note to rule 2, section 73 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 25th instant.

Mr. R. H. Anderson, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purneah, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Burdwan, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. R. F. Rampini, or until further orders.

Baboo Kedar Nath Biswas, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jhenida, Jessore, is allowed leave for eight days from the 23rd to the 30th instant inclusive, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code.

Baboo Krishna Kali Mookerjee, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Jhenida sub-division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Kedar Nath Biswas, or until further orders.

Baboo Rambrahmo Chatterjee, Sub-Deputy Collector, employed on land registration work in Cuttack, is transferred to Khoorda, in the district of Pooree.

Baboo Poorna Chunder Nag, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Khoorda, Pooree, is transferred to Cuttack for employment on land registration work.

Mr. C. Owen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chittagong Hill Tracts, is allowed leave for one week, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 11th instant.

Mr. W. H. Grimley, Magistrate and Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the date on which his appointment as Income-tax Commissioner terminated.

Mr. T. D. Beighton, District and Sessions Judge, Moorshedabad, is allowed leave for six weeks, under the note to rule 2, section 73 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 25th May 1887, or such subsequent date as he may be relieved.

Mr. R. H. Wilson, Officiating Commissioner, Burdwan Division, is allowed leave for five weeks, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st proximo.

Mr. E. V. Westmacott, Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Howrah, is appointed to act as Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. R. H. Wilson, or until further orders.

Mr. J. G. Ritchie, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serampore, Hooghly, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Howrah, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. E. V. Westmacott, or until further orders.

Mr. C. F. Worsley, Magistrate and Collector, Chumparun, is appointed to act as Commissioner of the Dacca Division, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. W. R. Larminic, or until further orders.

Mr. D. B. Allen, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Patna, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Chumparun as a temporary arrangement.

Mr. N. Warde-Jones, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rampore Hat, Beerbhoom, is allowed leave for two months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Mr. W. F. C. Montriou, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Beerbhoom, is appointed to have charge of the Rampore Hat sub-division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. N. Warde-Jones, or until further orders.

Baboo Syama Kumud Mookerjee, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purneah, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of Beerbhoom.

Baboo Tariny Prosad Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of Tipperah.

Mr. H. J. S. Cotton, Secretary to the Board of Revenue, is appointed to act as Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, and Chairman of the Corporation of the Town of Calcutta, during the absence, on leave, of the Hon'ble Sir Henry Leland Harrison, kt., or until further orders.

Mr. C. E. Buckland, Officiating Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue, is appointed to act as Secretary to the Board of Revenue, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. H. J. S. Cotton, or until further orders.

JUDICIAL.—The 14th April 1887.—Baboo Purna Chandra Dass, Manager of the Mong Raja's estates in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, is vested with powers equivalent to those of a Munsif, to be exercised in the Chittagong Hill Tracts district.

The 15th April 1887.—Baboo Amar Chunder Mookerjee, M.A., B.L., is appointed temporarily for three months to be an Additional Munsif in the district of Tipperah, to be ordinarily stationed at Chandpore.

The 16th April 1887.—Baboo Mon Mohan Roy, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bankoora, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

The 18th April 1887.—Mr. D. Cameron, Sub-divisional Officer of Sasseram, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Shahabad, to be ordinarily stationed at Sasseram.

Mr. H. E. Ransom, Sub-divisional Officer of Bhabooah, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Shahabad, to be ordinarily stationed at Bhabooah.

The 19th April 1887.—Baboo Saroda Prosad Sircar, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mozufferpore, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class.

GRANTS OF LEAVE TO MUNSIFS.—The 6th April 1887.—Baboo Vipina Chandra Rai, Second Munsif of Rungpore, is allowed leave for 51 days under section 73, rule 2, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 3rd proximo, or from the date on which he may be relieved.

The 14th April 1887.—Baboo Kedareshwar Moitro, First Munsif of Bhola, in the district of Backergunge, is allowed leave for two days, under section 73, rule 1, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 26th January last.

The 16th April 1887.—Baboo Prosunno Coomar Ghose, Second Munsif of Burrisal, in the district of Backergunge, is allowed leave for two months, under 73, rule 1, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 30th current, or from the date on which he may be relieved.

The 18th April 1887.—Baboo Suresh Chunder Ghose, Munsif of Sasseram, in the district of Shahabad, is allowed leave for two months, viz., 1 month and 23 days under section 73, rule 1, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, and the remaining 7 days under section 73, rule 3 of the same Code, with effect from the 6th proximo, or from the date on which he may be relieved.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

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CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 1887.

No. 271

## THE JUBILEE ODE.

By LORD TENNYSON,  
*Poet Laureate.*

I.

Fifty times the rose has flower'd and faded,  
Fifty times the golden harvest fallen,  
Since our Queen assumed the globe, the sceptre.

II.

She beloved for a kindliness  
Rare in Fable or History,  
Queen, and Empress of India,  
Crown'd so long with a diadem  
Never worn by a worthier,  
Now with prosperous auguries  
Comes at last to the bounteous  
Crowning year of her Jubilee.

III.

Nothing of the lawless, of the Despot,  
Nothing of the vulgar, or vainglorious,  
All is gracious, gentle, great and Queenly.

IV.

You then loyally, all of you,  
Deck your houses, illuminate  
All your towns for a festival,  
And in each let a multitude  
Loyal, each, to the heart of it,  
One full voice of allegiance,  
Hail the great Ceremonial  
Of this year of her Jubilee.

V.

Queen, as true to womanhood as Queenhood,  
Glorying in the glories of her people,  
Sorrowing with the sorrows of the lowest!

VI.

You, that wanton in affluence,  
Spare not now to be bountiful,  
Call your poor to regale with you,  
Make their neighbourhood healthfuller,  
Give your gold to the Hospital,  
Let the weary be comforted,  
Let the needy be banqueted,  
Let the maim'd in his heart rejoice,  
At this year of her Jubilee.

VII.

Henry's fifty years are all in shadow,  
Gray with distance Edward's fifty summers,  
E'en her Grandsire's fifty half forgotten.

VIII.

You, the Patriot Architect,  
Shape a stately memorial,  
Make it regally gorgeous,  
Some Imperial Institute,  
Rich in symbol, in ornament,  
Which may speak to the centuries,  
All the centuries after us,  
Of this year of her Jubilee.

IX.

Fifty years of ever-broadening Commerce!  
Fifty years of ever-brightening Science!  
Fifty years of ever-widening Empire!

X.

You, the Mighty, the Fortunate,  
You, the Lord-territorial,  
You, the Lord-manufacturer,  
You, the hardy, laborious,  
Patient children of Albion,  
You, Canadian, Indian,  
Australasian, African,  
All your hearts be in harmony,  
All your voices in unison,  
Singing "Hail to the glorious  
Golden year of her Jubilee!"

XI.

Are there thunders moaning in the distance?  
Are there spectres moving in the darkness?  
Trust the Lord of Light to guide her people,  
Till the thunders pass, the spectres vanish,  
And the Light is Victor, and the darkness  
Dawns into the Jubilee of the Ages.

## The Week.

WE are floundering in Time just now; there is no knowing our precise chronological situation, we fear. The Time Ball is under repairs, and we must do without it for some days.

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THERE have been several shocks of earthquake at Aden on the 31st ultimo and 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th instant.

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THE Ceylon Government estimate Rs. 4,00,000 profits from the Pearl Fishery for the current year. A bed of oysters has been found.

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THE Fifth Sale of Opium will be held next Monday, and the next sale is fixed for 2nd June.

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THE next Half yearly Examination of Junior Civilians, Deputy Magistrates, &c., begin next Monday simultaneously at Calcutta, Kishnagur, Jessore and Berhampore.

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THE Bengal Chamber of Commerce, in exercise of the new power granted them by Act III. (B. C.) of 1887, have returned Mr. J. L. MACKAY, of Messrs. MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co., Calcutta, as a Port Commissioner, in place of the Hon'ble D. CRUICKSHANK, gone home.

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COLONEL LYMBERTON, R.E., is appointed Secretary to the Government of India, P. W. D. Colonel CONWAY GORDON succeeds him as Director-General of Railways, Colonel WALLACE, in turn, filling the post of Manager, North-Western Railway.

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MR. DHIRENDRA NATH PAL is again to the fore—this time with more sense and justice on his side. He denounces the "mass" meetings for

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

reconstruction of Legislative Councils on representative basis as the agitation of "Theists and New-Indians," *i. e.*, wirepulled by "leaders who are neither fish nor flesh nor even red herring."

At the last annual meeting of the British Indian Association on Wednesday, the 20th instant, Maharaja NARENDRA KRISHNA was elected President for the current year. Dr. RAJENDRALALA MITRA (the last President), the Maharaja of Hutwa, Babu JOYKISSEN MOOKERJEE, and Baboo JADU LAL MULLICK will be the Vices of the year. The Hon'ble Raja PEARY MOHAN MOOKERJEE continues Secretary with Babu DWARKA NATH CHUCKERBUTTY for efficient Assistant. We are glad to see Babu JADULAL elected, though it was necessary for some of the old fogeys to die out before he could hope for his simple due.

THEY have started a society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals at Howrah. It lately held its first annual meeting. The report showed fair progress. The society owes its origin to the influence and zeal of Mr. DONNITHORNE and, we are bound to add, to the activity of the irrepressible KENGALI Baboo. We are glad to see that Babu HARI MOHAN BOSE, a leading member of one of the most respectable families of Howrah, who has been elected Vice President, takes an interest in the institution. We wish to see such a society in every town in India. Cruelty to animals is one of the basest forms of human cowardice and callousness. We Hindus and Jains and Buddhists ought specially to be above the reproach.

HERE is a riding feat in the depth of Russian winter over 400 miles in 8 days from Moscow to St. Petersburg :—

"According to information received yesterday (22nd March), Cornet Alexander Sergeevitch Parvelof of the 3rd Cymckie Dragoon Regiment, who left Moscow on the 11th March at 11 A.M., proposing to reach St. Petersburg only on the 23rd March, arrived there on the 20th March at 7 o'clock in the evening. Up to the present time no single horseman has accomplished so bold a ride, rendered all the more difficult by the fact that Mr. Parvelof was overtaken by a snow-storm with 20° Reaumur of frost (44° below the freezing-point Fahrenheit). Besides this Mr. Parvelof had to put up for his nightly rest in wretched peasant huts and eat and drink goodness knows what. He accomplished the ride in eight days and eight hours: thus the plucky rider did on the average 80 versts daily under the most unfavourable atmospheric conditions."

WE are agreeably surprised to learn that

"at a meeting of the French Société de Therapeutique, M. Martineau stated that he had treated diabetes for the last ten years with almost invariable success by a method borrowed from a deceased practitioner. The treatment consists in using as a beverage aerated waters, to which a solution of carbonate of lithia and arseniate of soda is added. Professor Semmola, of Naples, believes in the chloride and iodide of sodium, followed by the phosphate of sodium or of calcium; but apparently puts more faith in the inhalation of oxygen."

This seems a neat summary disposal of a dread evil. But there is no inherent improbability. Only let our physicians report.

WE read—with amazement :—

"Dr. McLaughlin, head physician of the Philadelphia Hospital, reports the marvellous and unprecedented cure of thirty patients in the last stage of consumption, solely by means of rectal injections of carbonic acid gas. The gas is prepared according to the system outlined in a recent paper by a Professor of the Lyons University. The medical authorities at the hospital express the belief that an absolute cure for consumption has been found."

The professional journals have, doubtless, published full particulars of this wonderful and easy cure of an incurable and terrible disease.

THE best study of mankind is man. And he is being studied in his various limbs. The latest science regarding him is Nazography by which "its author undertakes to divine the character, inclination, and habits of people by a simple inspection of their noses." A long nose is indicative of merit, power and genius. A straight organ is the visible sign of a just, serious and energetic mind. A Roman nose is put down for an adventurous propensity. A wide nose is emblematic of coarseness, while a cleft nose assures benevolence, and so on.

AN English Liberal paper thus summarises the Irish Crimes Bill :—

"The Ministerial measure, as explained by Mr. Balfour is simple, intelligible, and bad. The first provision mentioned by him is the best, or at any rate the least objectionable. It empowers the magistrates to examine witnesses on oath, when a crime has been committed, although no person is charged. This proposal is taken from the law of Scotland, and there are undoubtedly reasons, which we do not

discuss on the present occasion, for extending it to Ireland. Mr. Balfour went on to say that the Government intend to abolish the system of trial by jury altogether where a certain class of offences was concerned. The meaning of this is that two Resident Magistrates are to have the power of summarily convicting and sending to prison for six months, with hard labour, any person accused of criminal conspiracy, boy-cotting, rioting, Whiteboy offences, assaulting officers of the law, preventing lawful possession, or incitement to any of these acts. The High Court of Justice in Ireland may change the venue of any indictable offence on the application of the Attorney-General, though the prisoner can, if he pleases, show cause against the removal. Either the Attorney-General or the prisoner may demand a special jury. The Attorney-General for Ireland, if supported by the Attorney-General for England, may apply for the trial of Irish prisoners in this country; and the Irish Court may so order, provided that the expense of bringing witnesses here must be paid by the State, and that Irish counsel may practise for the nonce in English courts. The crimes to which this provision applies are murder, attempted murder, aggravated violence, arson, and breaking or firing into dwelling-houses. Any association, such as the National League, may be proclaimed as criminal by the Lord-Lieutenant in Council, and after such proclamation to belong to the association will be an offence under the Act. If Parliament is sitting, this proclamation must be laid on the tables of both Houses within a week. If Parliament is not sitting, it must be forthwith summoned. Either House may, by Address to the Crown, annul the proclamation. The Lord-Lieutenant is to decide in what districts such proclamations, and the Bill generally, shall be enforced. But there is no limit of time. The measure is intended to be permanent."

WE take the following Police report from an English daily :—

"A young woman named *Annie Keha*, who appeared in the dock with an infant in her arms, was charged with stealing wearing apparel to the value of 10s., belonging to Augustus Routledge.—Prosecutor lodges in Compton-street, and the defendant occupied the adjoining room. He had five children, and was a widower. The articles stolen were hanging behind a door, and when they were missed the matter was placed in the hands of Detective Nicholls, who discovered that defendant had pawned them at a neighbouring pawnbroker's.—Mr. Bridge (to defendant): How old are you?—Defendant: Eighteen.—Mr. Bridge: And how long have you been married? Defendant: Fifteen months.—Her husband came forward and said that he was a screw maker, but was out of employment. The defendant's mother was next called, and was asked why she had allowed her daughter to marry.—Witness: I couldn't help it, sir.—Mr. Bridge: Surely a mother could have stopped it. What had they to marry on?—Witness: I don't know, sir.—Mr. Bridge: And what have they to support them now?—Witness: I don't know, sir.—Mr. Bridge: It is a stupid thing for young people to marry without the means of supporting themselves, and a great source of ruin to the country is due to that fact. It is a practice now as common as possible. Every boy and girl thinks of marrying. They must come to want, and from want to crime, and the children are brought up in bad surroundings, and are badly nourished. He severely admonished the defendant for acting as she had done; but taking into consideration her youth and the fact that she might have been tempted by want, he allowed her to be released on her mother's recognisances to come up for judgment when called upon, an order being made that the pawnbroker should deliver the clothes to prosecutor."

That's a good magistrate. His remark is true, too, so far as regards the consequences of marrying without means or prospects. Even in our country, where the conditions of life are different and easier, early marriage is being felt to be a nuisance, and a source of misery and general demoralisation. But is it true that early marriage is decidedly on the increase in England? This must be in the lower classes.

OUR countrymen of Madras justly complain of their exclusion from the legal patronage of the Crown and the High Court. To drive their claim home, our wide-awake contemporary of the *Hindu* has published the following list of the Crown lawyers and their emoluments in the three Presidencies :—

"CALCUTTA.		Rs.
Honorable G. C. Paul, B.A., C.I.E., Advocate-General	...	3,448
W. C. Bonnerjee, (Barrister-at-Law) Acting Standing Counsel...	...	
H. A. Adkin, Government Solicitor	...	2,000
H. A. Fergusson, (Barrister-at-Law) Official Trustee	...	
A. B. Miller, (Barrister-at-Law) Official Assignee	...	
J. V. Woodman, (Barrister-at-Law) Chief Law Reporter	...	
Annoda Persad Banerji, Senior Government Pleader	...	300
Juggodanund Mookerjee, Junior Government Pleader	...	
J. G. Apar, (Barrister-at-Law) Clerk of the Crown	...	
E. W. Chambers, Coroner of Calcutta	...	
BOMBAY.		
The Hon. J. Macpherson, (Barrister-at-Law) Advocate-General	...	2,200
The Hon. J. R. Naylor, Legal Remembrancer	...	2,500
F. A. Little, Government Solicitor and Public Prosecutor	...	2,500
The Hon'ble Rao Saheb V. N. Mandlik, C.S.I., Government Pleader	...	300
L. W. G. Rivett Carnac, (Barrister-at-Law) Administrator-General	...	250
H. C. Kirkpatrick, (Barrister-at-Law) Reporter to the High Court	...	1,000
MADRAS.		
J. H. Spring Branson, (Barrister-at-Law) Acting Advocate-General	...	2,187-8

E. B. Powell, (Barrister-at-Law) Government Pleader	...	500
W. Morgan, Acting Government Solicitor	...	1,225
M. Gould, (Barrister-at-Law) Administrator-General	...	300
H. G. Wedderburn, (Barrister-at-Law) Reporter	...	400
J. G. Kerman, (Barrister-at-Law) Clerk of the Crown	...	300
E. Norton, (Barrister-at-Law) Coroner	...	350
W. Grant, (Barrister-at-Law) Crown Prosecutor	...	500

Here is irresistible eloquence. Is there no man in all Madras who could fill any of these offices? Even the Government Pleadership is held by a European! We do hope the influence of the new Governor will end this practical disability of a whole people.

THE new Governor of Madras continues to charm—even up in the clouds. No more convincing proof of his popularity could be required. F. of the *People's Friend* is one of the best writers on the Indian Press. Some of the finest remarks on the Jubilee which have appeared in this country, were from his graceful pen. Speaking of Lord CONNEMARA's life in the Hill retreat, he writes:—

"Sir Grant-Duff was icily cold in his deportment. His own shadow would be frightened with his long face and grisly beard and smileless countenance. Hamlet's ghost revisiting the glimpses of the moon could not have looked so woe-begone. The refreshing air of the mountain, nor its rich garden of roses could make him appear cheerful. Governor Bourke is just his antipodes. He goes about with a heartiness quite catching and he condescends to leave his Governorship at Stonehouse when he saunters about. Besides, His Excellency does not look like a stuffed man lost in the superiority of himself. He is *bon hommie* all over. It is said the Governor does not intend to remain longer than July on the Hills, but this we gather from rumour."

These are vigorous drawings. Are they to be accepted as typical of the difference between Pat and Sawney as men in power?

MR. MCG. H. FULTON and not Mr. RANADE acts as Legal Remembrancer to the Bombay Government in the place of the Honble J. R. NAYLOR transferred to the Secretariat as Chief-Secretary.

THE Prince of Bokhara, ABDUL MALICK TORA, has asked for a loan of Rs. 11,500 from the Punjab Government.

IT is not correct that the Nizam of Hyderabad has been presented by the Government of India with ten pairs of mules purchased at the Rawal Pindi Horse Fair at Rs. 1,000 per pair. The purchases were made on the Nizam's own account.

MAHARAJA DHULEEP SINGH has had an interview with M. KATKOFF at Moscow. What good to him? The poor imbecile has hopelessly compromised himself.

CAPTAIN TENANT a Frenchman of Reunion commanding the British brig *Town of Liverpool*, is under arrest at Port Louis. He is charged with carrying on slave trade between Africa and Reunion.

TWELVE dacoits looted six villages in the Junner taluka, Poona, and rewarded the zeal of the Hatgaun Police by cutting off the noses of the Patel's wife and daughter. They are being pursued.

A CASE of human sacrifice is being investigated in the Tirwadana district of the Madras Presidency. The offering was made to drive away barrenness from a girl, at Poolangudi, supposed to be possessed with the devil.

In a Full Bench Appeal, Pundit AJUDHA NATH took the *ab initio* objection of the legal existence of the N. W. P. High Court. He contended that there are only five Judges including the Chief Justice whereas the Letters Patent constituting the High Court, required that "the High Court of Judicature for the North-Western Provinces shall,.....consist of a Chief Justice and five Judges." The objection was overruled. The Secretary of State can no longer delay the appointment of the fifth Judge.

A BOY murder is reported from Goojranwala city:—

"A Hindoo lad of respectable family, the nephew of a member of the Goojranwala Municipality, was missed by his people. A *bunni* of the town was a great friend of the lad, and as the *bunni* had gone on a visit to the adjoining town of Ramnagar, it was supposed the boy had accompanied him. On enquiry being made, the *bunni* said the boy had not accompanied him, nor had he any idea of his whereabouts. The next day the *bunni* was found dead; and the report was that he had poisoned himself. The information led the boy's relatives to make

a search in the *bunni's* house at Goojranwala, where the remains of the boy were found partially buried under the floor. It is said that the head of the corpse had been battered in."

ON the 25th, the Honorary Magistrates' Court at Hooghly presented a murderous scene. A correspondent of the *Dainik* reports that on the day in question Baboos AUKHOY CHUNDER SIRCAR and others were presiding. A Mooktear HREDOY NATY MITTER was engaged on one side as also WOOMESH CHUNDER SIRCAR and others. In came a man by name HARI CHARAN MOOKERJEE and with a new razor inflicted two wounds on the mooktear HREDOY NATH in the throat. HREDOY fell down. HARI was arrested and is detained by the Police. The mooktear died the same evening. It is difficult to realise that all this took place in a busy court of justice in the plains of peaceful lifeless Bengal. One is reminded of the backwoods of America where lynch law prevails. It is only on the Punjab frontier or in Mopland that this sort of bloody romance of the law is confined. HREDOY's friends have this consolation that he has achieved a sort of immortality without intending it. His manner of dying was the most stirring event of his life.

If this tragic incident has the effect of moderating the manners and pretensions of the lawyers, the world will not be hard to console for one mooktear (country attorney) the less.

THE following telegram is reproduced in the Calcutta dailies:—

"A telegram to the *Bombay Gazette* says that a letter of Mr. George Allen to the *Standard* on the loss of the P. and O. steamer *Tasmania* has created a sensation in London. In concluding his account of the wreck Mr. Allen enters into a lengthy criticism of the P. and O. Company and its officers. He declares that the master of the steamer, Captain Perrins, was physically unfit for the important duty with which he was entrusted. He further states that at the time of the stranding of the ship the lascars of the crew lamentably collapsed. Their terror was so great that they became absolutely useless. Mr. Allen states that, after the casualty occurred, the stewards looted the cabins. He then severely criticises the unwise economy of the P. and O. Company, and urges that they should pay their officers more liberally, so that they might be able to retire earlier. The Company authorise me to contradict the allegations made in this letter. Captain Perrins, they say, was one of the most trusted officers of the fleet. I am informed that he was most liberally paid, and that the officers of the P. and O. are among the best paid officers of the mercantile marine. The Company further deny that the lascars became demoralised, and state that, contrary to the previous accounts, their conduct was most admirable. The tindal and serang died while endeavouring to secure the safety of the passengers. A large portion of the specie and valuables on board the *Tasmania* has been recovered."

THE *Englishman* publishes the following Own telegram from Simla on the Simla Exodus:—

"A reply from the Secretary of State to the Government of India despatch on the Simla exodus question is shortly expected. In the above despatch the Government of India went fully into the question. They stated that they were not specially attached to Simla or any other hill station. If, however, the Secretary of State decided that the Supreme Government should be located in the plains during the summer, Calcutta, in their opinion, was an unsuitable locality for such a purpose, and some new situation, such as Poona, should be selected. Calcutta, they held, was too far from the North-west frontier, its climate was unhealthy, and the location of the Government there would subject it to an undesirable extent to Bengali influence. It was true that in former times the Supreme Government's permanent headquarters were at Calcutta, but the despatch urged that in those days the Viceroy made long tours in Upper India and elsewhere, during which, although Government business was supposed to go on as usual in Calcutta under the control of the President in Council, practically it was brought to a standstill. It was further urged, under this head, that the character of the Government business has greatly changed since the above period, and that the arrangement at all approximating to such a state of things would now be impossible. The removal of the Supreme Government to a new locality, the despatch pointed out, would necessitate the abandonment of the lately erected public offices at Simla, and the construction of new ones at a great cost. As regards the isolation of Simla, the despatch states that the Government of India is not brought into direct contact with the people, but is a supervising and controlling agency. It is hoped, however, that a Railway would shortly be built which would bring the place into immediate contact with the general railway system of India. Measures were under consideration by which it was estimated that the establishments accompanying the Government to Simla would be reduced, and the expense of the movement thereby would be reduced. Permanent location of the Supreme Government in the plains, it is suggested, might deter statesmen of the first rank in English political life from accepting the post of Viceroy."

REPORTS from Mandalay confirm the death of HLA-OO. He is said to have been murdered on the night of the 14th in the jungle between Aloun and Yeu, by two of his own men, TONBAING and PEBOO. There



was a reward of Rs. 5,000 on this head. There is great rejoicing, for the pacification of the region between the Irrawaddy and the lower Chindwin is now more easy.

THE Ganges Antipollution Society of Benares have sent out a deputation for collection of funds. They first go to Lucknow to the Taluqdars, who are more familiar with Gogra than Ganga. The Benarasis should go to the fountain-head—Hardwar, or the Cow's Mouth, if possible—and descend gradually down like Bhagirath, till they reach the Bay that washes the feet of Kapila. Such a mission ought to fire the imagination of educated Indians. Whatever its financial prospects, it cannot go for nought, for the Hindu. Even as regards this world, it is worth more than the miserable rôle of scouring the country to get up sham demonstrations.

RANA SHRI VIKMATJI, must continue divorced from his Chiefship. By an order of the Bombay Government dated 6th May 1886, he was deposed from his position as Ruler of the State of Porebunder and deprived of all his powers. He was previously in 1869 shorn of the dignity of salute. The ex-Chief made a representation dated 16th November 1886, and the following is the order now passed:—

"The Rana should be informed that the Governor in Council cannot hold out any hope of any alteration in the resolution which has been adopted in his case after long deliberation and with much reluctance. If he desires to live at Porebunder, the Administrator will treat him with every consideration, and will, as far as possible, consult his wishes; but the Rana cannot be allowed to take any direct part in the administration. If he prefers to reside in British territory (as the Governor in Council would advise him to do) or to travel, Government will do their best to secure to him comfort and the due maintenance of his rank and dignity. It should be added that, with this object, the Government of India has sanctioned the restoration in British India, though not in Kattywar, of the salute of which he was deprived in 1869. This will entitle the Rana to be called 'His Highness' in British India."

THERE was a fire in Grant-street fronting the Municipal Office, and some huts stacked with hay were burnt down. The wind blew high and there was apprehension of the fire crossing the Dhurmtoolla-street to the Chandney Chowk, in which case the destruction of property would have been fearful. The Fire Brigade was on the spot in quarter of an hour, but the fire had by that time exhausted itself or its progress stopped by masonry buildings. There was slight damage to property.

Should not Grant-street be purged of its hay depôts? The legislature now engaged on the municipal bill may very well introduce into it provisions about the localization of depôts of inflammable materials or provide for rules on that behalf.

WE think we discern looming in the near future the Mahomedan reformer of the South. That coming man is Mir SHUJAET ALI KHAN—whom, according to the prevailing ignorance, they dub "Mr.," as if he had not handles enough, numerically as well as honorifically, to his name. In anticipation of the noise he is destined to make, we begin to note his movements. A native of the Godavery District, he entered the world in it in an obscure employment under Government. He is now of the Civil Service—Statutory. A writer in the local vernacular paper says that his success in life is admired by all. We dare say it is: we are certain it must be admitted by every one. He reminds us of the nonsensical-sounding but profound remark, Nothing succeeds like success. His luck follows him in all his concerns, public and private. The idea of a Mahomedan gentleman is not complete without his harem. It is a necessary adjunct. From Shah or Sultan downwards, a Believer without his seraglio is like—say, 'Punch without Judy. We are not told of the number of Mr. ALI's household, but one wife at least is mentioned, and he is lucky in her. She is an educated lady of the most liberal and advanced views. She is a native of Belgaum whom he lately found at Aurungabad, where they were married. If she is his sole spouse, well and good; but if she is one of several having a claim on his conjugal affections, her views of happiness must be moderate, for all her enlightened notions. The Meer Saheb is not stated to have been a widower, and if he had not married until lately he found the lady after his heart, he is an extraordinary Mahomedan. The lady has abandoned the *gosha* or *parda* as it is called in these parts—the veil of seclusion in which women of honor are kept—to the scandal of Mahomedan society. Mir SHUJAET ALI, accompanied by his bride, is now on a visit to his family and friends in the Godavery District.

HIS Excellency the Viceroy has been pleased to present Tirugnana Pandara-Sannadhi of Madura with a photograph of himself with autograph for the splendid reception at the Temple. In presenting the memento of the Viceregal visit, Mr. T. WEIR, the Sessions Judge, who had suggested this form when consulted by Lord DUFFERIN, asked the Pandara Sannadhi to take "special care to see that this portrait of His Excellency is religiously preserved by you and for all time by those who may come after you in the venerable office which you now hold." But will the gift last so long?

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE Song of the Municipal Bill Writer—is under consideration.

We have received another letter on the Baranagore Municipality, one being published in another column. It relates how at a meeting of the Corporation a member having, after a long course of neglect, been invited, was, when (apparently to the surprise of the others) he attended, told by the Vice-Chairman to retire on the plea that the invitation was a mistake of the clerk, the said clerk being conveniently away from the scene. But the narrative is swelled out to inordinate proportions. Notwithstanding the personal appeal with which it concludes, we must decline to publish it, unless at any rate it is considerably reduced. We cannot lay out so much space for the affairs of a single town, even though it be our own.

#### Editorial Notes.

THE new Legislature of the N.-W. P. has no better measure to occupy itself with than that for the prevention of cruelty to animals. But sentimental legislation is not the worst prospect in store for Upper India. From gush to mischief is but a step. There is a coarse Bengali proverb respecting the occupation of tailors without employment which comes to mind. The purport may be conveyed to English readers in their own way. His Cloven-footed Majesty must soon come to the rescue of a do-nothing concern whose partners, for want of anything better, yawn in one another's face.

And they must have a University, too—the old boys!

STILL at it!—

"In addition to his duties as a member of the Nizam's Deputation to her Majesty, Sirdar Diler-ul-Mulk is (the *Deccan Times* says) to settle with the Board of Directors the question regarding the rate at which the debentures, taken from the company by his Highness' Government, are to be given. The Government claims to be allowed to purchase them at fifteen or twenty per cent. discount, the rates at which they were originally placed in the market at Home, though they are now at par or above it. The directors, however, want their full pound of flesh, and, as it has been found impossible to settle the question by correspondence, the Sirdar is being deputed to England to obtain fair terms for the Government, and this he will doubtless succeed in effecting."

His first care is himself. He has feathered his nest, and it is time enough to strengthen and adorn it. This FOUCHÉ of the Deccan turned LESSEPS—this prince of Policemen who became famous as the tracker out of the wild rebel PHADKE, and afterwards became a rich grandee by assuming the rôle of amateur engineer and railway financier—is the hero of the great Railway jobbery in the Nizam's dominion. It was time he went to see his brother jobbers again and strengthen if necessary his influence with them and discuss future plans for exploitation of Hyderabad. What occasion more suitable than the Jubilee! What character more conducive to favour at Her Britannic Majesty's Court and respect of the British aristocracy and public than that of a member of the deputation to present the Nizam's address to Her Majesty!

MR. H. B. MEDLICOTT, Superintendent of the Geological Survey of India and Director of the Geological Museum, left Calcutta for good on Thursday last. Dr. WILLIAM KING, First Grade Superintendent of the Survey, has been appointed his successor.

On Monday last, Mr. MEDLICOTT's friends and colleagues of the Geological Survey which, since the retirement of Dr. OLDHAM, he directed with zeal and the weight of the first of Indian geologists,—of the Asiatic Society of which he was one of its oldest members and had been one of its Presidents,—and of the Indian Museum, of which he was its Honorary Secretary, gave him a parting banquet. It was got up in haste, the circular of Messrs. WOOD-MASON and KING who were



the prime movers, having been issued on the 21st and a reply called for on the following day, in order to allow of at least two days' notice to the hotel. Yet it was as successful as it might be expected to be at this season of no season in Calcutta. There was a goodly gathering of "all the talents" in science and art. The following are some of the names :—

Mr. E. T. Atkinson, Comptroller-General.  
 Lt.-Colonel R. V. Riddell, R. E., Master of the Mint.  
 Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, C. I. E.  
 Mr. C. H. Tawney, Principal, Presidency College.  
 Mr. Kellner, Accountant-General.  
 Mr. John Eliot, Meteorological Reporter, Bengal Government.  
 Mr. Pedler, Professor of Chemistry, Presidency College.  
 Dr. F. Nötling, Palæontologist, Geological Survey.

The dinner was supplied by Bonsard, that is as much as a good Hindu can venture to say as to the character, and as much as need be said, we fancy, in assurance of its quality.

The compliment was well deserved. Mr. MEDLICOTT'S eminence as a man of science is unquestioned. It was recognised by the Royal Society admitting him to the honor of their Fellowship. The pursuits of pure science are not favorable to popular distinction. So far as a man of science might hope for popular recognition, Mr. MEDLICOTT had by his misanthropy sacrificed all his prospects. He fitly closed his Indian career with a parting kick against the nation that maintained his Pandit self as a Prince.

THE Burdwan Adoption Question will be argued by Counsel in the Board of Revenue next Saturday. Objection has been taken to Mr. BEAMES again reporting on the matter after having had his say as Commissioner of the Burdwan Division. Messrs. PAUL and EVANS will represent the widow, and Mr. WOODROFFE and PUGH the Dowager, Ranis.

IF Mr. BEAMES is to sit as the Board of Revenue in judgment on matters on which he has formed an opinion and expressed himself lately as Commissioner of Burdwan, the party against whom he has pronounced himself had better save herself, the effort to convince him. Human nature is human nature, under all disguises, notwithstanding every protestation. It might possibly be different in some other case. Mr. BEAMES is nothing if not partizan.

INDEED, there is a preliminary general objection to this officer's interference. He cannot pretend to judge who is himself on his trial. So is Mr. BEAMES. It would be affectation not to take notice of matters of public report. It will not do to take shelter under a lofty scorn of the native press. The *Amrita Bazar* has preferred such distinct and serious charges, on information purporting to be drawn from good sources if not to be within the editor's personal knowledge, that there is no getting over it with a shrug or a *phshaw*! any more than with a brave *insouciance* or a determined silence. The apparition comes in such a questionable shape that you cannot avoid questioning it for your own comfort and the credit of our rulers and the general good. It demands a hearing in terms too peremptory to be ignored. It must be honestly faced, and laid by legitimate means.

What is the good of a free Press if such allegations are left unnoticed?

It may be convenient to the parties to pass them over, but surely the Government cannot be indifferent to its own reputation or to the purity of the administration.

THE Hindoo Patriot fancies that the charges of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* against a high officer of Government are false, and trusts that the officer will sue the publisher of the paper. The wily old doctor! It adopts the serpentine wisdom of the Bengali proverb which says, Let enemies dispose of themselves or be disposed of by outsiders.

It is not for us to prescribe the method so much as to press for inquiry. Under any circumstances, there ought to be no vindictive persecution of the Press when it endeavours to perform a disagreeable and difficult duty. Whatever be the step decided upon, let it be done so in a proper spirit and pursued loyally. All the public care for, is light and justice, without fear or favor, but without prejudice to individuals or interests.

WE fully intended to attend to the protest of the pupils of the Calcutta School of Art and of the late Mr. LOCKE against our article, but press of matter again compels us to postpone the subject. We cannot undertake to open a correspondence with the writers of Letters to the Editor any more than to publish every such letter. Unauthenticated communications have the least claim.

THE new broom in Mysore sweeps well. It is to be hoped that it will wear. There may be rather more of friendly feeling than liberal reality in the announcement that the new Dewan Bahadoor RAMA RAO "has already introduced reforms which have gained the confidence of the people." But His Excellency has evidently begun in right earnest and, what is more to the purpose, is in the right track. There is a poetical appropriateness in the order of his measures that to the Oriental imagination augurs well of his rule. He has begun sweetly and wisely. His first great public measure is of sugar, sugary. He has abolished the tax on molasses in North Mysore. Levied on the manufactured produce and collected by a large staff of inquisitorial underlings, this impost was obviously a source of much vexation and loss to the people, without anything like adequate gain to the revenue, and simply repressed an interesting industry that might be valuable. Sugar never comes amiss to anybody, in any of its manifold forms, though Orientals and Americans may show the utmost predilection for it, but true appreciation must ever take offence at waste. Here it was no question of sweets to the sweet. The dark brood of low, low caste village officials extracted most of the sugar, literally or figuratively as the case might be. The tax made a poor return to the state, considering that the jaggery producer was let off by the tax gatherer for a consideration to himself, to the loss of the cultivator who got reduced prices and that of the consumer who had to pay higher, in order to make up the illicit gains of the servants of Government. No sound finance would entertain an impost which distinctly injures production and commerce. Dewan RAMA RAO has acted like an enlightened minister in setting sugar free.

Another measure of the Dewan's, agreeable and useful all round, if somewhat of a *dilettante* odour, is the planting of fruit trees on both sides of the roads. We are glad of it. There will be both beauty and convenience. We are surprised that such cheap methods of securing public improvement are so much neglected. His Excellency will allow the people to enjoy the fruits. It will be difficult to maintain a liberality so apt to be abused. But the rule may be modified when necessary. Meanwhile, we have a proof the Dewan's benevolence towards the people.

WE are happy to learn that Mr. J. R. MAPLES, manager of the Tramway Company, who fell down insensible from his horse last week, was sufficiently well to be removed from the Cossipore *dépôt* where he had been lying four days, at first in a precarious state. His case was even more serious than was thought. There were injuries to many of the organs. The bleeding was from the stomach. His fine robust form derived from Nature, and built up by manly exercise and sobriety, is reduced to the whilome hidden skeleton.

ON the 31st March last, took place at the French Academy the imposing ceremony of reception of LECONTE DE LISLE as successor of VICTOR HUGO. Since some years when the Academy was invoked to immortalize a poet, a *bulletin* was found among the different votes bearing—the name Leconte de Lisle and the signature Victor Hugo. The master thus designated him who should succeed his own self and lead the Romantic phalanx to battle.

In calling to its bosom the author of *Poems Barbares*, the Immortal Company merely gave effect to the wishes of VICTOR HUGO. The candidature of the new Academician was only a formality. He was elected in advance as it were, for among those who nominated him was the illustrious dead whose suffrage alone was a title to immortality. By his vocation and habits, the poet was little fitted to canvass his future colleagues for votes, and had it been left to himself, there was little chance of his being enrolled among the celebrated *Forty*. It was VICTOR HUGO who made the Academicians see that his nominee's place was in their midst. VICTOR HUGO died and they elected him.

They order it better in France, beyond question. How different is the case in England! Would LECONTE DE LISLE have had any chance there? Would the gifted Creole who sang the *Poems Barbares* have been elected to a British Academy? Then we would long since

have seen the Hindu author of the *Antiquities of Orissa* made an F. R. S. Nor is this matter merely of speculation. There is a passage in the literary history of Great Britain analogous to the dying recommendation of HUGO, as far as the circumstances admit, and even more to the point perhaps. The great English Orientalist HORACE HAYMAN WILSON'S dying pen was engaged on a most appreciative notice of Dr. MAX MULLER'S great edition of the Rig Veda Sanhita. Published in the *Edinburgh Review*, it constituted the most irresistible recommendation of the German scholar who had cast in his lot with England, to the chair of Boden Professor of Sanskrit at Oxford, left vacant by WILSON'S death. And yet that recommendation was irreverently set aside and an inferior, much inferior, man from a rival University was elected, merely because he was a born Englishman.

THERE is nothing so unreliable as newspaper reports about men. Certainly professed fiction is not so preposterous as much of the news that finds its way into the papers. The suppliers do not respect GAY'S famous precept to "keep probability in view." The old phrase "lying as a despatch" is in danger of being superseded by a new comparison—*false as a newspaper*. There are degrees of unreliability attaching to different descriptions of news, of course. Official inspirations—especially official denials—should always be taken *cum grano salis*. The reports from embassies and residencies are usually the least worthy of credence. Of general subjects, early news of death seems to be the lowest for credit, thereby reversing the Indian proverb which supports its accuracy. Until confirmed, it is the part of prudence not to act upon a report of death. Times without number have such reports turned out premature or absolutely groundless! The daily press, as the regular chronicler of the times, is continually making announcements of deaths and making apologies for them afterwards. As the offending informants are nearly all Europeans, their victims are of their own kith and kin—Europeans all. As the natives have adopted other European vices like drinking and litigation, so they are learning this trick likewise. Accordingly, we remark of late false entries in the papers of deaths of natives. This is growing to be one of the established methods of showing ill will. It is very annoying to men to be thus summarily sent out as it were to their last account and the only consolation that we can offer is the popular persuasion in our country that such murderous rumour only promotes the longevity of the victims. Our friend Dr. JUGGOBUNDHOO BOSE has been more often subjected to this treatment than any other, native or European. Is it possible that he owes in any degree his recovery from the serious attack of paralysis to his enemies' solicitude to see him packed off to the next world? Babu HEM CHUNDER KERR, the all-alive Deputy Magistrate, has also been singled out for the same dire trip. The reporter of his death professed to have seen his body taken to the bank of the sacred river by his family and friends and being there duly burnt. Notwithstanding all that, the day after that on which he was, or ought to have been, turned to ashes, his apparition turned up at our office, in all the glory of his little limbs, and in proof of his tenacious vitality. The other day a notice appeared in the morning papers of the death from a sharp attack of cholera of Baboo RAMMOY ROY, Physician and Surgeon to the Shumbhoo Nath Pandit Memorial Hospital of Bhowanipore in the Suburbs, though our printer who lives in that quarter reported having on his way to this office seen him sound and hale. The next day's papers contained his assertion of life and denial of death or even the way to it.

BENTHAM used to say of his disciple JAMES MILL that his love of the lower classes was but another name for his hatred of the upper. Sir LEPEL GRIFFIN'S recent article in the *Asiatic Quarterly Review* almost tempts us to say that his admiration of the "brave fighting races of the Punjab" means nothing but his hatred and contempt of the Bengalis. Let Sir LEPEL do some real, tangible good to the Punjabees, and we should be the first to testify to the genuineness of his admiration. Sir LEPEL GRIFFIN is an able man in a high position. Let him show by his acts that he is not one of those Englishmen whose chief occupation is in the expressive language of Mr. SAMUEL LAING "to drink bitter beer and grumble at India." Sir LEPEL has been knighted as an instrument of that ambitious foreign policy which, intending to checkmate Russia, has, at the cost of much blood and treasure, only accelerated her advance. Let him prove his title to the distinction by services of a less questionable character.

IN questions of race, creed and nationality, most of the current generalisations are erroneous; and the few that are really sound embody only half-truths. When Sir LEPEL GRIFFIN roundly asserts that all Bengali officials will break down at the time of trial, he forgets the gallantry shown by Babu PYARI MOHAN BANNERJEE, "the fighting Moonsiff" of the North West, in repelling with a number of untrained followers the attack of a company of mutineers reinforced by the Bazar rabble. Whilst this Bengali official bravely stuck to his post, and was rewarded for his pluck with the grant of a *jaighir*, Mr. W. TAYLER, Commissioner of Patna, who ordered his European Subordinates to leave their stations and concentrate themselves at Patna, was

dismissed. He would be a bold man who should assert that PYARI MOHAN BANNERJEE was an exceptional character among his countrymen. Man for man, we engage to pit Mr. R. C. DUTT against Sir LEPEL GRIFFIN or two such European Civilians as Mr. F———N and Mr. B———R. As for the model Magistrate, who should ride 20 miles to investigate a case of murder and who should not hesitate to shoot the ringleader of a rayyet, we have rarely heard of a European Magistrate or even a District Superintendent of Police who manifests such zeal for the detection of crime; though we heard of plenty of Magistrates who would be glad to travel that distance to bag a covey of snipes. For the sake of humanity and justice, we hope that Sir LEPEL'S precept and Mr. COWAN'S example of shooting rioters without a trial will not be followed.

BENGALIS can fight when their blood is up—sometimes against great odds. About 3 years before the mutiny, two petty undertenants or *howladars* of Singkhathi in Buckergunje, after repeatedly defying the authority of the Magistrate Mr. H. A. R. ALEXANDER, issued out of their betelpalm stockade to fight with him. They and their followers were armed only with bamboo shields and spears; yet they showed a bold front to the Magistrate and his auxiliaries—the brothers MORELL of Purulia—who were all armed with muskets, and to a whole host of Daroghahs, Jamadars and Chowkidars who, with sticks, spears and swords, attempted to hem in the rioters. It was not till several of their followers were shot, that the brave GHEISUDDIN and MONIRUDDIN, better known as GOGON MIA and MOHAN MIA gave way. If Sir LEPEL doubts the story, let him read Mr. BEVERIDGE'S History of Buckergunje.

As for manly sports, we should have liked to see a match in tiger-shooting between Sir LEPEL GRIFFIN and DOMAN Babu of Maldah, RAI CHARAN Babu of Noral or BRAJA KISHORE Babu of Bishenpur.

A BRAHMAN may be a democrat by conviction, but he is almost always an aristocrat by instinct; so when Sir LEPEL GRIFFIN talks of birth as a qualification for high office, we can readily sympathise with him. We should not like to be governed by a shoemaker's son, though the grandfather of JOHN STUART MILL was a shoemaker. But we confess we don't like Sir LEPEL'S sneers at the "career open to talent." The greatest of English rulers was CROMWELL and it was his policy to open "a career to talent," though he exacted a certain amount of hypocrisy by insisting that his officers should be saints as well as able men. The greatest of Continental Administrators were FREDERICK II and NAPOLEON I, and both these sovereigns had in their employ the ablest men they could find. Whether competitive examinations secure the best men for the administration is a wholly different question. In many cases they do, in others they don't. The evils of the competitive system are patent enough; but none has yet suggested an alternative system which will not open the door to favouritism and jobbery.

THE Commissioners, at their meeting of Thursday, refused to re-admit Baboo BENODE CHANDRA DAS to the post of their Treasurer which he vacated at the instance of the Chairman and which at later advice of friends and lawyers he wanted to refill. That advice proved too late. He pays heavily indeed, for an act outside his own office as Treasurer. The Commissioners led by the Chairman take him at his admission of abstraction and evidently are not moved by his legal appeal to enquire into the circumstances under which he "picked up and retained" two packets of Jubilee cards and subsequently obliged his friends with. He had no other or criminal intention.

We are truly sorry for him and his. We confess we cannot respect him, but he is punished beyond measure. He is the victim of circumstances. The Chairman himself was kind to him. But though he has found lawyers and editors and orators now, he had no proper advisers at the beginning. Worst of all, he has lost luck.

THE post had been specially created for him and with his removal it does not lapse with the Collector's but passes on to the domesticated son-in-law.

THE nomination by Sir HENRY HARRISON of Baboo PUNDARIKARSHA MOOKERJEE was opposed by Baboo SURENDRA NATH BANERJEE on the ground of his sonship-in-law. He would rather have a historical son-in-law and a graduate. He threw at the face of the Chairman the

Bengali adage about sons-in-law. But the Chairman is not a Bengali nor are all the Commissioners of that race, and the argument, offensive in itself, fell flat.

Is sonship-in-law a disqualification? Was there any Bengali Commissioner present that day who is not a son-in-law? If there was any among the whole body of Commissioners, he did not express himself against marriage. Did not Lord RIPON advise every body to marry?

The active spirits on the board made a desperate fight. They put forth all their strength and exhausted all their arts to set aside the Chairman's nominee and get one of their *proteges* appointed.

It was all vain. The Chairman is now irresistible, and on this question he had the law on his side. The "leading Commissioners" only proved that they lead themselves, and that not in the right and practicable track.

In another column will be found a letter on the Baranagar Municipality. It is authenticated, of course, but is the version of one party. Although taking the most lively interest in municipal work and keenly watching the infant institutions, we try to avoid as much as possible to be mixed up in local broils. Baranagar is too near us and the allegations contained in this letter are too serious for us to refuse it admittance.

We fear this municipality has reached a critical stage. The squabbles of the past eighteen months have culminated on the last election in a Kidderminster scene the following day. The law has been appealed to on both sides.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 1887.

### THE BENGAL GOVERNMENT AND THE NATIVE PRESS.

THE native press has always been the *bête noir* in the eyes of the Bengal Government. Year after year, has that press been sharply criticised in its Administration Reports, till its wrath reached the culminating point about the close of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON'S administration. Here is his parting shot at the obnoxious institution :—

"Regarding the *tone of the native press*, there is little to add to what has already been recorded on the subject. Of the purely local papers published up-country, it appears that they exercise no political influences, and that they only circulate local news or such information as they collect from Calcutta newspapers and telegrams. There is, however, a growing tendency on the part of such prints to take their inspiration from the Calcutta Vernacular Press as to their criticisms of public affairs; and it is to be regretted that the attitude and tone of the Native Press of the Metropolis is generally antagonistic to both the legislative and administrative action of the Government, and this in writing which cannot be described as coming within the limits of temperate and reasonable discussion. Beyond this there is too often the exhibition of a spirit of rancorous hostility to the European community, made with the deliberate intention of keeping alive differences between Europeans and natives. Even if charges alleged against Europeans are proved upon enquiry to be false, these charges are persisted in, and the judicial tribunals are accused of partiality and bias. There is little doubt that the editors of, and writers in, these newspapers are generally disappointed placemen or schoolboys, many of whom are brought up and taught in schools by men who inculcate that a spirit of insubordination is a spirit of proper independence. But perhaps the most mischievous influence which unscrupulous native papers now exercise is in the terrorism they exert over native officials, deterring them from the effective discharge of their duties."

This testimony, it will be observed, has all the internal evidence of being delivered in a fit of the spleen. There is not the slightest trace of calm judgment to be found in what has every appearance of a retaliation. There is not one good word for the condemned institution. It is vile all through. But the testimony comes from the smitten, and, as such, it cannot expect to be received without large allowances of salt. There is no pretence of an effort to conceal the animus which inspires it. To those who know how these opinions in the Administration Reports are manufactured, it will be no wonder that the native press should have made itself so obnoxious to officials whose proceedings often come under its castigation. Like opinions on the material condition of the country and the state of public feeling, a notice of the press chiefly in reference to its tone forms one of the

heads on which local officers are required to submit their annual reports. These in their turn sometimes delegate the duty to some officers of the subordinate executive service, or it may be the district officers themselves draw up the reports. They are scarcely, however, at liberty, to depart from the lines which are understood to be laid down for them to go upon. They are bound, for instance, to show that evidences of growing prosperity are manifest on all sides; whatever may be their own convictions as to the real state of the people, they are sure year after year to refer with triumph to the greater consumption of steel umbrellas, and to the exposure of brass utensils and ornaments in the village markets as conclusive proofs of the increasing welfare of the country. In fact, it is not too much to say that these opinions which, through a process of intermediate hands, at last find a place in the Government Administration reports, are made to order by a subordinate agency. The press is a terror to none more than to officers of anti-native tendencies who are often tempted, by their distance from the higher authorities, to indulge in a capricious use of their powers. When these sit in judgment upon the press, where is the chance of a fair estimate of its merits and its demerits?

The press occupies in this country the place of the opposition in the Parliamentary constitution. That under the circumstances it should criticise, and often adversely criticise, the legislative and executive measures of the Government, is hardly a wonder, far less a charge to be gravely preferred against it in the way it has been done. That is the very function for which it exists. It is a libel, however, to attribute to it set malice against the European community. It is only when any Europeans grossly misbehave themselves towards the people of this country, and when, as is not unoften the case, there is an apparent miscarriage of justice in their trial, that the native press feels called upon to denounce the outrage. But it is hardly worthwhile to make a defence against a charge so sweeping and one-sided. If the press has its faults, is the administration of justice free from all blame, or the attitude of individual Europeans to the people all that it should be? It is likewise false to disparage the writers on the native press as disappointed place-men and school-boys. It is scarcely in the nature of things possible that schoolboys should conduct the press of a country. There may be some ephemeral papers in Calcutta started by young men with indifferent qualification for the task, but these do not come within the scope of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON'S criticism. The native papers noticed in the report are mentioned by name, and intimately knowing their writers as we do, we wonder where the late Lieutenant-Governor got his information. The editors of native papers may not indeed be the most successful men as regards their enjoyment of the good things of life, but it is a snobbish taunt to remind them of their comparative poverty. After all, even disappointed placemen have their uses in God's economy. But for them, there would be no check to the abuse of power. If their unsuccess leads them to take too gloomy views of things, generally, all the less chance of escape for any man or thing deserving of an occasional correction. Theirs the stern eye, the upbraiding tongue, the pen of gall, which remind the despot in the heyday of power of the limits beyond which he should not go.

For the rest, Sir RIVERS THOMPSON'S judgment of the press is a gratuitous slander. Nothing, indeed, could be more unphilosophical, unstatesmanlike, nay,

absurd, than his diatribe. Indeed, to appreciate the position of the press, to judge of its character—its merits and its imperfections, to gauge its effects and its usefulness, might well tax the pen of a BUCKLE. The subject is not one to be disposed of so summarily. At the best, the late Lieutenant-Governor's admonition to the press is impracticable. It amounts to saying that a free press should cease exercising its freedom.

### THE SCHOOLMASTER IN COUNCIL.

HITHERTO, since the old days of BROUGHAM, (though not exactly in his sense) the schoolmaster was abroad. He is now home. Having landed at the Coilaghat and gone straight up to the great house in the nearest square, he planted himself in the Chamber wherein they make or unmake or mend laws, and almost shows signs of sending down roots.

His *debut* was in keeping with his learned character. In proper conformity to the analogy of the injunction of classical antiquity, *Ne sutor &c.*, the schoolmaster sticks to his spelling-book and his lexicon without laying aside his birch. No matter when or where, Sir Pandit carries with him the implements of his vocation—the insignia of his sovereignty—in supreme indifference to the opinion of the unclassical vulgar. Even so in response to the summons to make laws, the Knight of the Birch enters the penetralia of the Legislative Chamber in all his glory, in full uniform, armed *cap-a-pie*. And so, too, at the first call of duty, or what he regards the first opportunity, he brandishes his peculiar weapon and if he does not make any particular impression on his colleagues' legislative consciousness, he summarily knocks their linguistic wisdom-tooth (which they had not dropped for all their age) out of their head. There was no blushing modesty in the newcomer—no apologetic preface before, nor explanatory epilogue after, the operation. This was his first appearance—call it if you dare, his “maiden effort.”

In maiden meditation, fancy free.

“The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft asked the permission of the President to move a trifling verbal amendment, namely, to substitute the phrases ‘elected Commissioners’ for ‘elective Commissioners,’ and ‘nominated Commissioners’ for ‘nominee Commissioners,’ in section IV and in any other sections of the Bill in which those phrases occurred. In trying to find out the meaning of the phrase ‘elective Commissioner,’ he had considered other connexions in which the word ‘elective’ was ordinarily used. It was used, for example, in the phrase ‘elective principle,’ which meant the principle that related to, or concerned, or governed election. It was used again in the phrase ‘elective body,’ that is to say, a body in whom was vested the right of election. But he must confess that the phrase, as it stood in the Bill, could not be said to be used in either of those senses. An ‘elective Commissioner’ was not a Commissioner who was concerned with an election, nor was he a Commissioner who possessed the right of election. The phrase merely meant an ‘elected Commissioner’; and he therefore moved that the word ‘elected’ be substituted for ‘elective.’ So with regard to the phrase ‘nominee Commissioner.’ A ‘nominee’ was a nominated person; the difference between ‘nominee’ and ‘nominated’ being just the difference between the substantive and the adjective. The phrase seemed to savour of Teutonic complexity, if not of an Americanism. He therefore moved that in place of the word ‘nominee’ the word ‘nominated’ be substituted.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said he had suffered much during the last few days from some of his friends who had also taken exception to the use of these phrases in the Bill, and who expressed their surprise that he could consent to the passing of a Bill in which these phrases occurred. But being very diffident he did not venture to put any notice of motion in his own name for the correction of these phrases. Now, however, that he had found a sturdier spirit come forward, he was glad to support the motion.

The Hon. Mr. Macaulay said the Council would no doubt expect from him some explanation of his conduct. He could only say that he had to plead other authority, inferior no doubt to the authority of his hon. friend the mover of the amendment, but still respectable authority. The words were taken from the Bombay and Madras Acts. The Bombay Act, he believed, was in part the work of a distinguished member of the Bombay Civil Service, Mr. Max Melville, and had as well the authority of Mr. Raymond West and others; and Mr. Macaulay, though he had not himself liked the phrases, had felt diffidence in departing from their example. But, as he recognized his hon. friend as the very highest authority on questions of phraseology, he hoped the Council would accept the amendment.”

Not a little surprise was felt, and many were the hostile comments made, when the Director of Public Instruction was appointed to the Legislative Council. What could the schoolmaster—even the chief schoolmaster of the Province—do in the legislature? it was asked. The answer has now been given, and it is sufficiently to the point.

Sir ALFRED CROFT has vindicated his place. The schoolmaster has given the reason for his being in the legislature. It is a characteristic defence, and thoroughly practical. Law making is, after all, a literary,

or at least a literate, art, and Sir ALFRED has shown that the Council can by no means boast of a superfluity of literature or even over much elementary learning. In fact, the old boys badly want a schoolmaster. Nor are they over vain in this respect, however proud or haughty they may be in others. They took their Pandit's admonitions in good part. Even that prig, Master MACAULAY, himself was all meekness, and related with boyish naïveté how he had been fishing about not only for the matter of his laws but likewise for the manner, how he had been depending on the Bombay law-makers for wording and phraseology, knowing them to be better scholars than those of Bengal.

So the strange departure of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON in his last appointments to the Council, is justified. He knew what he was about when he invited the schoolmaster. We are reminded of the epigrams bandied between the rival universities when, in 1715, GEORGE I made a present of books to Cambridge at the same time that a cavalry regiment was sent to Oxford. Dr. TRAPP, an Oxford don, put the matter thus, to the glory of his mother:—

The King observing, with judicious eyes,  
The state of both his universities,  
To one he sent a regiment; for why?  
That learned body wanted loyalty:—  
To th'other he sent books, as well discerning  
How much that loyal body wanted learning.

The table was neatly turned to the advantage of the other place by Sir WILLIAM BROWNE, a Cantab:—

The King to Oxford sent his troop of horse,  
For Tories own no argument but force.  
With equal care to Cambridge books he sent,  
For Whigs allow no force but argument.

### SELF-GOVERNMENT IN INDIA.

THE Anglo-Indian community is, we think, alarming itself without sufficient reason. From the long telegram published in the *Times* of Monday, it would appear to believe that the Government intends by degrees to hand over the entire administration of the Empire to Indians,—giving them, in fact, a monopoly of office. This is to be effected, it is supposed, either by granting a direct preference to natives for all appointments, or by allowing examinations in India, in which Bengalees, from their numbers and the early age at which their powers mature, would win all prizes, and rapidly fill up the whole body of the superior Civil Service. The apprehension is, we believe, entirely without foundation. That the Government is dissatisfied with the present system, under which the wrong class of natives obtains a preference, and is willing to open larger careers to Indians, is, we believe, true, as it is also true that educated natives have recently begun to put forward claims which involve demands for a monopoly of all appointments in the service of the State. Their views are not without acceptance among civilians, and they were, it would seem, pressed by some theorists before the Public Service Commission with a vehemence which alarmed not only the English in India, but the Mahomedan population, who have not the slightest intention, if the English give up governing, to allow any one else to do it but themselves. They may, however, we think, make themselves easy, at least for another generation. There is not the slightest evidence that the supreme Government intends to abandon the system which, within a single century, has produced such marvellous results, or to supersede government by Englishmen in favour of what would really be government by Indian Pashas. There are three reasons against such a course, two practical and one moral, either of which must act as a sufficient deterrent.

In the first place, the machinery is not ready, and will not be ready for another generation. Our system of education in India has produced a large class of clever and fairly informed young men, who succeed in examinations, who learn law easily and well, and who are to a man desirous of obtaining salaried office. They are not, however, as yet competent to govern. By the consent of almost all who have watched their progress, they have acquired much of the knowledge of their Western rivals; but they have not yet acquired their *morale*, their freedom from influence, or their implicit devotion to duty. That is no blame to them, for they are not Christians, and have not inherited those instincts which a thousand years of a noble creed, of difficult struggles towards the light, and of a severe contest with Nature, have bred into the Western peoples. They are in many respects fine people, equal intellectually to the educated Pashas of Eastern Europe, and more than their equals morally; but they still lack somewhat essential to a governing caste. Without the English to help them, they would in a year go to pieces as an administrative body, would be superseded by the great and uneducated native families, and would, in all human probability, be slaughtered out. In that inability to win their countrymen, and secure foothold for themselves independent of British artillery, is for the present their condemnation. They would, merely to be safe, require the constant

services of the European army; and to place that army, with its resistless strength, at the disposal of men so widely different from ourselves, men who are not Christians and who have different ideals alike of life and of the ends of government, would be indefensible. If the administration of India is to be sustained by British bayonets, it must be controlled by British agents acting upon British ideas. An Egypt with two hundred millions of subjects would be an intolerable scandal.

Secondly, it is by no means proved that the change would be acceptable to the natives themselves. The true population of the Continent, outside two or three cities on the coast, where a few of the new generation have learned to reflect English ideas, shows no enthusiasm for the change, which, when once realised, would almost certainly be resisted. Almost all appointments would fall to the Bengalees, whose mental quickness brings them to the front in every college of the country; and the remaining races of India alike distrust and detest Bengalees. They regard them exactly as the Turks regard the Greeks, and would be just as reluctant to submit to their ascendancy. They do not love the English either; but they feel them to be just, they know them to be brave, and they accept the award of battle as indicating the will of the Most High. That is no reason why they should submit to the ascendancy of the one native race which does not fight, and which, were the English only away, would submit without a struggle to the first band of warriors, whether Sikh or Mahomedan or Mahratta, which enforced its claim to allegiance by the sword. The Mussulmans, in particular, hold India to be justly theirs. They are more numerous by at least twenty millions than they were when their régime was overthrown, they do not see that capacity to read English gives their rivals any moral advantage, and they certainly would not voluntarily submit to be ruled by Hindoos. They have recently shown a strong disposition to support the British Government as preferable to any native alternative, and utterly refused to join in any prayer for the concession of representative institutions. Let all alike submit to the foreigner, or let the foreigner go,—this is their decision, and from their point of view it is an entirely intelligible one. They will no more surrender voluntarily, than Orangemen will accept the government of a Dublin Parliament. To alienate so utterly the most powerful section of the people, is a strange way of producing internal peace in the Indian continent, and one which no statesman, Indian or English, would gravely recommend. The protest of the Mussulmans would, be it remembered, be also the protest of the Sikhs, the Rajpoots, the Mahrattas, and, indeed, all the fighting races, whose opinion rarely reaches the newspapers, but would be alone effective when it came to action.

Thirdly, and lastly, the substitution of an Indian for an English Civil Service would entirely destroy the only moral foundation for our rule. As a matter of fact, we reign in India by right of conquest; but the justification for that reign is not superiority in arms. It is that in virtue of certain mental advantages, springing from their creed, their history, and the group of indefinable facts which we call superiority of race, the English can and do give the millions of India a better administration than her own children can. That this is the fact is evident from the historic truth that after two thousand years of self-government, India had sunk into such anarchy that wars were ceaseless, that property and life were insecure, and that over vast districts armed disorder threatened to extinguish civilisation. The English gave the continent peace, order, and the opportunity of enlightenment; and that is their claim to rule it. If it is now admitted that the Indians can ensure those blessings as well or better for themselves, then the clear duty of the conquerors is to retire, acknowledging that their work is done. If they remain, they remain out of pure selfishness, to govern their equals for the sake of salaries needlessly excessive and grudgingly paid. There is no escape from that dilemma, which, in theory at all events, would, in the circumstances of India, at any time justify armed revolt. If, therefore, Englishmen are to resign the administration of India, they ought, as a people who make concessions whenever morality requires, to resign the government also,—an argument which will be pressed on them some day with effect. We do not doubt that it is their duty to make their government vivifying, or question that they are performing this duty in a way which, when the vivifying process is complete, will compel them to retire. When the masses, especially of the warrior races, have reached the point of *morale* at which they can trust each other in battle, India will be untenable, either by Englishman or Russian, or, indeed, by any foreigner whatever, unless it be the Chinese, who does not shrink, when opposed, from extirpation. At present, however, the Englishmen are resolved to remain, and remaining, they are bound to do their appointed work, which is precisely that of the Roman people,—to plant so deeply the idea of government by law, that it never can be wholly replaced by the idea of government by will. They cannot pursue that work if they surrender their leadership, or give up their ultimate control and supervision of every branch of the administration supported by their arms. The test that their work is done, that they have sufficiently vivified a population which they found paralysed by its history, is, and must be, none other than their own expulsion. When India has recovered the capacity of self-government, her order to the foreigner to go will not be capable of misinterpretation.—The *Spectator*, March, 26.

## BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

**GENERAL.**—The 20th April 1887.—Mr. J. F. Stevens, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Gya, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of District and Sessions Judges, with effect from the 11th instant, *vice* Mr. F. J. G. Campbell, on furlough.

Mr. A. Borooah, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Noakholly, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 13th instant, *vice* Mr. R. Cornish, on furlough.

Baboo Monmohun Chuckerbutty, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pooree, is vested with the powers of a Collector under section 4 of the Public Demands Recovery Act VII (B. C.) of 1880 in the district of Pooree, *vice* Baboo Probhat Chunder Chatterjee, on leave.

Mr. F. J. G. Campbell, c. s., reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 13th instant.

The 22nd April 1887.—Baboo Nani Lal Mookerjee, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Alipore, Julpigoree, is transferred to the district of Bogra.

Moulvie Fuzul Rahman, Sub-Deputy Collector, Bogra, is transferred to Alipore, Julpigoree.

Mr. J. C. Lloyd, Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to Pubna.

Mr. W. H. Verner, c. s., reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 25th March 1887.

Mr. T. Smith, c. s., reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 8th April 1887.

The 23rd April 1887.—Mr. B. Dé, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hooghly, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Furreedpore, during the absence, on furlough, of Mr. A. Weekes, or until further orders.

Mr. F. H. Barrow, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Furreedpore, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector, Chumparun, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. C. F. Worsley, or until further orders.

The 25th April 1887.—Baboo Girendra Chandra Banerjee, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Lohardugga, is allowed leave for one month, under sections 128-1 and 141 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 2nd March 1887.

The 26th April 1887.—Baboo Anando Chunder Bose, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector in charge of the Kalkini Estates in Furreedpore, is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, *vice* Baboo Kalipodo Chuckerbutty.

Baboo Anando Chunder Bose will, however, continue to be in charge of the Kalkini Estates, until further orders.

Baboo Sri Nath Sen, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Burdwan Division, is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, *vice* Baboo Anando Chunder Bose, and is posted to Kutubdea, Chittagong.

Baboo Opendra Chundra Mozoomdar, Income-tax Assessor, Calcutta, is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, *vice* Baboo Haripodo Ghosh.

Baboo Opendra Chundra Mozoomdar will, however, continue to be employed on his present duties, until further orders.

Baboo Kali Kumar Roy, Officiating Sub-Deputy Collector, Chittagong, is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, *vice* Baboo Opendra Chundra Mozoomdar, and is posted to the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

Baboo Burhandeo Narain, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mozufferpore, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that district.

Baboo Benode Behary Sircar, Sub-Deputy Collector, Burdwan, is transferred temporarily to the Raneegunge sub-division of that district.

Baboo Nobin Krishna Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of Tipperah.

This cancels the order of the 19th instant, transferring Baboo Tariny Prosad Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, to Tipperah.

Baboo Ishan Chunder Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mozufferpore, is transferred to Purneah, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Mr. A. D'B. Gomess, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hooghly, is appointed to have charge of the Scrampore sub-division of that district, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. J. G. Ritchie, or until further orders.

Mr. F. C. Barnes is appointed to act as Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. C. E. Buckland, or until further orders, with effect from the 4th April 1887.

**JUDICIAL.**—The 20th April 1887.—The following Munsifs, in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, are vested with the powers conferred on District Judges by sections 344 to 359 (both inclusive) of the Code of Civil Procedure in cases where the debts owing by the insolvents do not exceed Rs. 1,000:—

Baboo Hari Krishna Chatterjee, 2nd Munsif of Alipore.

„ Karuna Das Bose, Munsif of Sealdah.



Baboo Atulbehari Ghosh, 1st Munsif of Baraset.

" Dinonath Sarkar, 1st Munsif of Baripore.

" Durga Churn Ghosh, 1st Munsif of Basirhat.

" Janoki Nath Mookerjee, 1st Munsif of Diamond Harbour.

The 21st April 1887.—Baboo Sasi Bhusun Sen, Second Munsif of Comillah, in the district of Tipperah, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a court up to the amount of Rs. 50 within the local jurisdiction of the Sudder Munsif of Tipperah, during the absence of Baboo Brojo Behary Shome, First Munsif of Comillah, on deputation at Sealdah, or until further orders.

The Munsifs named below are specially empowered to exercise final jurisdiction under section 153 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885, in rent-suits when the amount of claim does not exceed fifty rupees:—

Baboo Bhagabati Charan Mittra, 3rd Munsif of Arrah.

" Gopal Chunder Bose, 1st Munsif of Buxar.

" Suresh Chunder Ghose, Munsif of Sasseram.

Baboo Aswini Kumar Basu, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Backergunge, to be ordinarily stationed at Barisal, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Prosonno Kumar Ghose, or until further orders, with effect from the date on which he joins his appointment.

The 22nd April 1887.—Baboo Kisor Lal Sen, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Shahabad, to be ordinarily stationed at Sasseram, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Suresh Chunder Ghose, or until further orders.

The 26th April 1887.—Baboo Gouri Sunker Biswas, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nowgong, Rajshahye, is vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The undermentioned officers are vested with powers under sections 110 and 133 of the Code of Criminal Procedure:—

Kumar Girindra Narain Deb, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore.

Baboo Mohinet Mohan Chuckerbutty, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore.

Baboo Sital Nath Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nuddea, is vested with powers under section 110 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Mr. W. F. C. Montriou, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Beerbhoom, is vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

GRANTS OF LEAVE TO MUNSIFS.—The 25th April 1887.—Baboo Behari Lal Banerjee, Munsif of Magoorah, in the district of Jessore, is allowed leave for one month, under section 73, rule 1, chapter V. of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 7th proximo, or from the date on which he may be relieved.

The 25th April 1887.—Baboo Ram Jadab Talapatra, Munsif of Sherepore, in the district of Mymensingh, is allowed leave for two days under section 73, rule 1, chapter V. of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 8th December 1886, and on the 14th ultimo.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

A number of complaints have been made in regard to a municipal election lately held at Baranagar. Some of the allegations are serious enough, and reflect great discredit on those concerned. It is stated that in accordance with the Rules, requiring that the time and place of an election should be fixed at least a month beforehand, the same were fixed on 16th March last. The Municipal Office was appointed as the place and 11-30 A. M. of 18th April as the time. These arrangements were, however, changed at the very last moment. There are numbers of people ready enough to depose before any court of justice that they heard the beat of the tom-tom on the evening of 17th April proclaiming that the hour was changed to 3-30 P. M., and the place to another in the vicinity of one of the candidates' and indeed being his private property. The change thus made is suspicious to all appearance. On enquiry made it transpires that the change is procured by a series of most sinister dodges. The Vice-Chairman of the municipality appears to be the greatest sinner in this respect. He is well-known to be hand in gloves with one of the candidates, and at the same time the bitterest enemy of the other. Under the circumstances, common discretion ought to have been sufficient to keep him aloof from the proceedings. Nor do the Rules give any authority to the municipal executive to interfere in election proceedings. In the present instance, however, the Vice-Chairman practically usurps all the functions which under the law belong to the Magistrate, and takes advantage of his position to frustrate all chances of a fair election. The favored candidate quietly drops a few lines to the Vice-Chairman praying for a change of place, who, on his part simply forwards the application to the presiding officer, Kumar Gopendra Krishna, officiating Joint-Magistrate of Sealdah. If the Vice-Chairman had any sense of fairness, he ought to have informed the presiding officer

that the applicant was himself a candidate, although he signed the application as Secretary of a Ratepayers' Association, and that the place asked for was his private property, where owing to the prevalence of bad feelings between the parties, the other candidate might and did object to go. Indeed, no man could be safe from insult at this place. On the present occasion, a brother of the candidate and a part-owner of the property having made himself very turbulent, the presiding officer had to order him to leave the place, on which he refused to go from his own place, and threatened to clear the place of all others. On the occasion of a former election an assault on a police constable was committed by one of the members of this interesting family, who would have been prosecuted under orders of Rai Ramsunker Sen Bahadoor who then presided, were it not for the intercession of some of the gentlemen present. This was, nevertheless, the place fixed at the last moment. Then they set about having a change of the hour. A large body of voters in this ward are employed in the Jute factory, and from their experience of the last two elections, they anticipated that these men were likely to vote largely for the rival candidate. How to exclude them was the problem. But it was easily solved. They had only two hours' leave for their meals from 11 A. M. to 1 P. M., and if the election could be changed to the afternoon, they would have the poll all to themselves. Accordingly a number of the favored candidate's partizan quietly make an application to the Vice-Chairman praying that the hour may be deferred to 3-30 P. M., which is referred to the presiding officer for orders. The matter is left to the Vice-Chairman for disposal, who writes back to the presiding officer in his own hand and on a post-card, apparently that no clue might remain in the office, as follows:—"3-30 P. M. would suit the voters very well, and I have directed a notification to issue to that effect." The notification, as we have said, was published on the evening of the day presiding the election, and not quite twenty-four hours before the proceedings were to take place. Could there be a greater scandal than this? Without leaving for one candidate or the other, the impartial public have indeed an interest in the fairness of an election, the result of which should clearly represent the voice of the electorate. The incidents of this election deserve therefore to be widely known, as a warning. They show how an election may be entirely frustrated by trickery.

Nor, however, was the change of place and time all. There were worse things enacted afterwards. The voting list used at the poll was never published. The one published was written out in Bengali by blocks, whereas the one suddenly flashed on the voters to their utter bewilderment was an English list in alphabetical order. The proceedings did not commence till after 4 P. M., and great confusion and uproar prevailed throughout. Indeed the Joint-Magistrate is none of a disciplinarian. The names were called in such a hurry that before one could present himself through the throng other names were called and it was by the merest chance that one man's vote was recorded for four or five others who were marked absent although they were present. One Municipal Commissioner especially distinguished himself as a partizan of the lucky candidate. Not to mention the mean devices and the humiliation of their canvassing, at the polling booth, this man transformed himself for the nonce into a vote crier, and often proclaimed votes for the wrong party, to the confusion of the voters themselves who had no opportunity of opening their mouth. The Vice-Chairman was of course present, and looked approvingly on the proceedings, and often murmured to the ear of the presiding officer, probably to further quicken his pace. The hurry with which the names were read was apparently against the factory voters putting in their appearance at 6-45 P. M., when the factory closes. This would appear to be the more likely explanation of the unseemly haste, as while only about 150 names were called during the first hour and a half, the remaining hour found the presiding officer at the goal of his race, which in figures means the going through of about 600 names amidst all the undeniable confusion and crowding and the quarrelling in the space of one hour of sixty minutes. Indeed, as has been observed to us, it was a race with the setting sun against the appearance of the factory men. The factory whistle, nevertheless, gave its shrill warning at last, and the men were at once on the scene in full force. They loudly cried for their votes being taken. Other voters had come in also and were told that their votes would be taken afterwards. The presiding officer, however, began to add up the votes, without giving any notice, we understand, that the poll had closed, and finding there was a difference of two votes, suddenly declared one of the candidates to be elected. In the meantime a large number of the excluded voters have lodged a complaint to the Magistrate, and great dissatisfaction prevails. Naturally the successful candidate and his friends have no joy. The Presiding Officer, we believe, admits that there was too great uproar for any possibility of a fair election, and has expressed his willingness that there should be a fresh election. This is, we think, the least he ought to do for mending a series of mistakes which must lie at his door. At the best, he has too easily allowed himself to be the dupe of unscrupulous men. As to the conduct of the Vice-Chairman in the matter, we hope the Municipal Commissioners will know how to deal with an untrustworthy man.



# REIS & RAYYET

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## The Week.

THE Queen has returned to Windsor from the Continent. God bless the Queen!

THE Maharaja of Mysore has gone up to the Nilgiris, where he is taking lessons on the violin. We wish all prentice hands—and voices likewise—were equally wise and considerate.

THE Colonial Exhibition gives a surplus of £35,000, £25,000 whereof goes to the Imperial Institute. Not a bad balance, after paying all expenses and honoraria to some of the gentlemen who gave their services, to say nothing of the "fun" enjoyed.

HERE is the latest authoritative interpretation of the old doctrine of *Caveat Emptor*. The House of Lords have ruled in *Drummond & Sons v. Van Ingen & Co.*, that

"the purchasers are not responsible for any defect latent in the samples put before them, and rendering them unmerchantable for the purposes of the order given. The purchasers have a right to assume that the manufacturers will produce work which shall be, not only according to sample, but thoroughly fitted for the uses to which it is known that it will be applied."

THE Government of India are arranging for a railway to Simla. They will next, we suppose, get up a wee little native Press and a modest bit of public opinion, to give the *quietus* to the Exodus question.

LORD CONNEMARA it seems cannot do without his Band at Ootacamund. A major portion has been summoned to the hills.

We do not wonder. Once one is fairly installed in Olympus, he is soon enough turned into a god. We suppose when, after the close of the labors of the Public Service Commission, we step into one of these official thrones we shall send for all the Bayadares and all the *Naubuts* and *Roushun Chowkees* of the plains to us in the Hills.

The first CONNEMARA is a BOURKE, after all.

We suppose Sir STEUART BAYLEY will not be able long to resist the invitation to Darjeeling.

THE Queen's Jubilee in England cannot be complete without Indian Chiefs and Native Army or at least some officers. Some of the Princes have already left. Thirteen Native Cavalry officers from the three Presidencies, in charge of a British officer of the Native Cavalry, have been told off for the purpose.

THE wide heavens are to be re-charted—on a large and uniform scale. On the invitation of the Academie des Sciences, a Conference of Astronomers from all parts of the world is being held at Paris to plan measures how to do so by photography.

It is decided, according to the *Englishman*, that Mr. JOBBINGS replaces Mr. GHILARDI as Superintendent of the Calcutta School of Art.

ANOTHER railway bridge over the Jhelum, 70 miles below the present! The last girders have been laid and the bridge may be opened in a few days. Situated at Chak Nizam, it connects the Sind-Sagar and North-Western railway systems. It will also facilitate intercommunication

between Lahore and the Dera Ismael Khan frontier, and open up the Salt rocks of Khewrah and the coal of Dhundote. It is a magnificent work extending more than half a mile.

A GIRDER of the Kristna bridge, Koregan-Miraj section of the West Deccan Railways, now being completed, was blown down on the evening of Tuesday the 26th April. Six coolies were killed and 8 more wounded.

ANOTHER French hero of the campaign of 1870 has fallen a victim to the King of Terrors. We refer to General FARRE who has succumbed to injuries received from a fall from his horse. Born at Valence in 1816, he entered at the proper age the Polytechnique Institution, and having completed his military education, he entered the army in which he rendered brilliant services. He was a strategist of the first order and the part he played with the army of the North, during the late Franco-German War, will remain ever memorable. In politics, he did not distinguish himself so well as in war. Appointed Minister of the War by M. GAMBETTA, he failed to show those qualities, which his friends expected from him. He was a Senator and grand officer of the Legion of Honour.

SARDAR HURDYAL SINGH, Acting Moosahib Ala (Prime minister) to the Jodhpoor State, proposes to found a hospital at Kotla in the Kangra district, Punjab, in memory of Sir W. G. DAVIES, K. C. S. I., Financial Commissioner, Punjab. He will give the land free, and erect the building at a cost of Rs. 6,000. When completed he will, besides, supply all the necessary instruments.

UPPER Burma is so far quiet that the telegraph may now be used for private messages, subject of course to the state traffic. The Nationalist "dacoits" are however still at their desperate work. The latest news from Myingyan is that Captain RENDLE of the 10th Madras Native Infantry was killed in a skirmish at Sidotia, last Saturday.

THE Deputy Magistrate in charge of Manickganj sub-division of Dacca District has given mortal offence to a mooktear practising in his court. The man has sued him, claiming Rs. 1,100 damages, for that the Deputy defamed him to his clients and prejudiced him in his profession. The case is expected to be a hotly contested one. The *Dacca Gazette*, for reasons it would not now disclose, protests against Judge PAGE hearing the case, as he is understood to intend doing.

The cat is out of the bag later down the page, in a communication published in the leading column headed "A Bird's Eye View of Dacca" and signed "Joseph." This is an attack on Mr. PAGE'S judicial administration. The Judge of Dacca is accused of browbeating and bullying pleaders and witnesses alike.

MADRAS city is to be relieved of its Presidency Magistrate in the person of ANSURADIN Saheb Bahadar, who retires on pension. He is to be succeeded by a Mahomedan Munsiff from the Salem District, glorying in the name of SULTAN MOHIDDIN Sahib. Are the very Munsiffs of Salem competent criminal judges?

WE cannot take upon us to say that they order the matter better in Dacca, but they certainly are taking to novel ways in that old city. For example, there was lately a party at the house of MOHINI Baboo

one of the leading Shao bankers, himself wellknown on the turf, in honor of Mr. WYER, Magistrate, on the eve of his leaving the District. We read in the *Dacca Gazette* :—

"Babu M. M. Das on behalf of the residents of Dacca invited its gentry to meet at an Evening Party to bid farewell to Mr. WYER."

Between the "residents of Dacca" and "its gentry" a distinction is made without a real difference. The announcement amounts to this, that the good people of Dacca invited themselves. Such a party may be a pleasant one, but it can scarcely be regarded as a true example of hospitality. It reminds us of a Bengali female proverb which satirises a religious ceremony in a Hindu household, in which the father is the officiating priest, the mother the welcomed "wife" for ceremonial attentions, and the son the necessary Brahman guest who must be fed on pain of the whole ceremony being void.

Then, is it to be understood by MOHINI Baboo's inviting people to his house on behalf of the residents of Dacca, that he simply lent the use of his residence for a common purpose? In such a case the expenses would be borne by the "residents of Dacca." But that is not likely. Unlike some others of his family and tribe, MOHINI is noted for his liberality. He would be the last person to give at his house a subscription party.

The misunderstanding is due to the anomalous nature of the late business. All the difficulty has been caused by the desire to invest a private compliment with the dignity of a public demonstration. The wise men of the East thus essayed to "annex" the entertainment of MOHINI Baboo to the glorification of their departing Magistrate.

ANOTHER Tichborne case is expected to occupy the English Courts :—

"The Manor of Whaddon and Nash is of remote origin, for William Giffard, Earl of Buckingham, was granted the Manor of Wadone by William the Conqueror. He founded about 1084 the Cluniac Priory of St. Faith, at Longueville, in Normandy, and bestowed upon it the church of Whaddon, the tithes of the demesne lands, and of his woods, pannage, and venison, and all other profits from his woodlands and pasturage in Whaddon. The manor and appurtenances descended to Walter, second Earl of Buckingham, on whose death the same escheated to the Crown. It was granted by Henry II., in 1173, to Humet, Constable of Normandy, and descended to his son, William Humet, who was deprived thereof by King John, and the latter granted it to William, Earl of Arundel, and it again reverted to the Crown. In 1243 Henry III. granted it to John Fitz-Geoffry. The estates can be traced through many hands down to the year 1761, when they were in the possession of Thomas James Selby. He died unmarried in 1772, having by his will, made in 1768, devised these estates to his right and lawful heir in fee simple, for the better discovery of whom advertisements were to be published. No one, however, has proved to be his right and lawful heir. It appears that all the members of the Selby family who are now living, and to whom the testator was a member, retained the services of a Mr. Aldred, of Camberwell, a gentleman engaged in research, to compile such a pedigree as includes every branch of the testator's family. Mr. Aldred has in consequence compiled a huge pedigree, either tracing each branch down to some living person or shown the extinction thereof. In this way counsel have advised that the court must elect from the numerous claimants such a person as will be deemed to be the right and lawful heir of the testator. Records have been found which hitherto have either been suppressed or unknown, and among these documents are some original declarations of persons now deceased proving the concealment of, and tampering with, registers and other records. Owing to this startling evidence and the fact that the pedigree is forty-eight square feet in size, and the evidence in support weighs several cwt. the case will undoubtedly be more notorious than the Tichborne trial. The estates are valued at £3,000,000, besides a fund in Chancery derived from accumulated rents and profits."

THE German Government have released M. SCHNAEBELL and he has returned to Paris. He received an ovation at Pontamousson as soon as he crossed the frontier. These Continental States are miserably suspicious.

SIR CHARLES AITCHISON, the new Ordinary Member of the Viceregal Council, has gone on leave and the Hon'ble J. B. PEILE, of the Bombay Council, acts for him. A salute was fired before he had actually taken his seat.

MR. Justice STRAIGHT of the Allahabad High Court goes home again and Mr. C. H. HILL, Barrister and Public Prosecutor of the same place, officiates.

MR. E. GAV having been granted leave for six months, Mr. E. F. T. ATKINSON, Accountant-General, Bengal, officiates as Comptroller and Auditor General and Head Commissioner of Paper Currency, Mr. E. W. KELLNER, Deputy Comptroller General, officiates for Mr.

ATKINSON, and Baboo RAJANI NATH RAY, Assistant Accountant General, Bengal, officiates temporarily as Deputy Comptroller-General.

THE Central Indian Agency will be presided over by Colonel BANNERMAN during Sir LEPEL GRIFFIN'S absence on duty on the Holkar, in England. Major BARR from Rewah comes to Gwalior.

THERE will be now, as a measure of economy, only two, instead of three, Deputy Inspectors-General of Police in Madras, with Headquarters at Waltair and Coimbatore.

AN insured coffee curing establishment at Cochin took fire on the 28th ultimo causing damage to the extent of from half to three-quarters of a lac.

THE Upper House have not yet done with the Irish Land Bill. A motion in the Lower Chamber, postponing the Irish Criminal Law Amendment Bill till the other Bill had been passed by the Lords and presented to the Commons, has been negatived by 341 to 240.

SIR DRUMMOND WATFF has suggested the evacuation of Egypt by the British in five years. The Turkish Commissioners are alarmed at the length of time and have applied to the palace for further direction.

THE *Englishman* announces that Mr. JOHN BEAMES of the Board of Revenue, has satisfactorily answered to the Government the charges brought by the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, regarding his loans. Simultaneously, the *Pioneer* recommends the repeal of Act XXXVII. of 1850, authorising enquiry into misconduct of the Heaven-born.

THE Home remittances, during April, amounted to £1,735,000, the Budget estimate for the financial year 1887-88 being £16,250,000.

No separate fee is payable to the Port Health Officer for a clean bill of health. The Governor-General in Council is pleased to direct that that service should be considered as covered by the Port dues paid by vessels.

A gigantic naphtha fountain

"burst forth at Baku on March 22, carrying up oil, sand, and large stones to a height of 350 feet, overrunning several reservoirs prepared for it, and, after forming an extensive petroleum lake, forcing its way into the sea. One stone of those thrown out with the naphtha weighed 23lbs. All efforts to regulate this forcible gush of oil were vain."

IN reply to Mr. J. F. O'BRIEN who asked the Under-Secretary of State for India whether any native newspaper from Madras was filed in the office of the Secretary of State for India, Sir JOHN GORST informed the House of Commons that such was not done, but that the contents of the Vernacular Press in all parts of India were regularly brought under the consideration of the Secretary of State. Is it not time that files of at least some of the Native edited papers be preserved in the India House?

24,414 native males and 6091 females and 347 and 84 Europeans visited the Museum last month, or a total of 36,936 visitors, giving a daily average of 1,473.

THE common not overdelicious kitchen vegetable called *Torooce* (*Luffa acutangula*) has already been raised to the dignity of a flesh-brush. And a very good brush it is from the reticulated system of fibre in which its flesh is held and interwoven. Many prefer it to Turkish towel. Such is its popularity in Europe that it is among the common articles exposed for sale at chemists' shops in England. Sometimes pretty smoking caps are made out of the material. That is glory enough for a despised Asiatic herb. But that does not exhaust its potentiality. Of late, another good and honorable use has been found for it. The *Torooce* or *Luffa* offers good material for the European head-dress. It has been found a welcome substitute for sola or felt. It is indeed a thing of many uses and a great future.

There are at least two species of the *Luffa*, the *acutangula* and the *cylindrica*, and a gentleman connected with the Botanic Garden, British Guiana, points out that it is the latter that is put, as it lays itself open, to manifold uses. Its fibre is more soft and elastic. Its

extreme bitterness prevents its being an edible, too, so it is more available for other industrial purposes. The *Torooee* is rather a tempting thing for the hungry masses, being as good as vegetable marrow. If flesh brushes and material for hats are wanted in large quantities, farmers and peasants in this country had better cultivate the *Luffa cylindrica*.

### Editorial Notes.

MOST disquieting rumours are afloat about the state of things with the Amir of Cabul. There are different conflicting accounts as regards the gravity of the Ghilzai rising, and although the English Government here and at home seem to be in possession of the true facts of the case, the outside public are left in the completest uncertainty. Amir ABDUR RAHMAN'S English alliance has, according to one account, roused the fanatical feelings of his people against him. As if the British alliance was a sudden growth of yesterday! As if ABDUR RAHMAN was the first Amir supported by the Franks who rule India! But our Afghan politics have more than any others the misfortune to be at the mercy of *quid nuncs* and *flaneurs*. Accordingly, we hear all sorts of stories in support of impossible contingencies. Thus, MUSKI ALAM'S son is said to have been hard at work in fomenting those feelings, and an impression is said to prevail amongst the Afghans that the Amir has sold the country to the British. The old, old story! But the Afghans are not quite the ignorant fellows they were a generation or even a decade back. There are rumours too of negotiations going on with YACOOB KHAN in India on the one hand and YACOOB KHAN at Herat, with the object, it is said, of installing SHERE ALI KHAN'S family again on the throne. Other versions attribute the Amir's unpopularity to his extortionate fiscal policy. And that is the truth, as we long since informed our readers, from independent inquiries of our own. In any case, ABDUR RAHMAN'S position would seem to have been considerably weakened, and there may be some foundation in the reports of his forces having sustained some severe check, and his having appealed to the Viceroy for aid. The report of his intended flight to British territory and the transport of his valuables to Fyzabad, is evidently a fabrication of his enemies. Nevertheless, all may not be as it should be.

The latest reports confirm the news of the success of the Amir's arms. According to the primitive practice maintained in Central Asia, the heads of the Hotak Ghilzais who have fallen near Maroof have arrived at Candahar, and General GHOLAM HYDER ORAKZAI (not the Generalissimo of that ilk) has sent to the Amir a circumstantial account of the great defeat sustained from him by the other Ghilzais at Mookoor about four weeks ago. The battle was obstinately contested; commencing with the dawn, it lasted for some five truly mortal hours, the enemy apparently being posted in an advantageous position on the hill, but at last they were driven up and down the rocky slopes. On the 22nd April, the date of the last advice, all was quiet in and about Cabool.

As we long ago led our readers to expect, the Heroine of Reform in Bombay has ignominiously collapsed. Who is the more injured of the two, DADAJI BEKHAJI or RAKHMI BAI? is a question which is suggested by the disclosures made rather late in the day by the husband. For all the sentimental gush which has been so copiously spent over the alleged hardships of RAKHMIBAI'S lot, her position now must be enviable indeed from one point of view. She has already achieved no mean fame. The best and the greatest have taken sides with her. The British press from the *Times* downwards is her ally. At Bombay a Committee has been organized under the auspices of no less a man than Professor WORDSWORTH for procuring judicial or legislative remedy for her. Even the Royal Jubilee has been pressed to the service. The Jubilee has been turned to good account in multifarious ways in trade and other directions, and it was but fitting that it should be utilised in such a connection. So nothing less would satisfy her friends than to put her forward as a suppliant to Majesty itself for an enactment as a memorial of the Jubilee. The scheme was as modest as the *modus operandi* was wise. The proposed Act was to boulder Hindu society by denying recognition to marriages contracted under the age of 20 of the male, and of 15 of the female contracting party.

RAKHMIBAI has thus been swimming, as it were, on the high tide of popular sympathy. She has been sailing before a fair wind. But the publication of DADAJI'S pamphlet threatens to take the wind out of her sails. To the high tide as to all other things, there is a limit and the ebb soon or late ensues. In the present case, the disenchantment of the dream must give a rude shock to several of the heroine's admirers. The exasperated husband has unmasked it all. For all the appeal to the holy *shastras* of the Hindus, the married couple are but carpenters, strictly speaking, beyond the pale of their sacred injunctions, and a caste whose social usages are loosely governed by varying local customs. The marriage, after all, is not quite such an infant marriage as has been reported, the bride being above 12 years of age, and being given away with the full consent of the mother, the step-father, Dr. SUCCARAM ARJUN, and the mother's father. Nor is RAKHMI BAI that prodigy of English education and refinement she has long posed in the imagination of her European sympathizers. The husband is Dr. ARJUN'S nephew, selected by him with full knowledge of what he was, and ostensibly to prevent RAKHMI BAI'S father's property from passing out of his hands by her marriage to a stranger. The story of DADAJI'S illiteracy and asthmatic complaint is also declared to be a gross exaggeration. The whole plot was apparently laid with the wily object of keeping the heiress's property from going to DADAJI with the heiress's affections.

OFFICIAL critics of the new system of Local Self-Government seem to chuckle over the unseemly squabbles which unfortunately, if not unnaturally, marked its outset in this country. At any rate, they are unwearied in preaching to our municipal and local Boards the virtue of harmony. It is comparatively easy, however, to preach. How difficult is the position of having to deal with representative councils or the feat of maintaining harmony, is best appreciated by the actual actors on the scene. It makes little difference whether it is an official or non-official who is the chief actor. The liability to err is proverbially human, without being confined to Asiatic or European, to Covenanted or Uncovenanted. Temptations to high-handedness unconsciously gain supremacy over the best men, and where the motives may be above question, the acts may appear to be destitute of the slightest warrant.

The occasion for moralising in this strain is furnished by the demonstration made the other day by the Commissioners of the Suburban Municipality against Mr. FORBES, their Chairman. They have been highly dissatisfied with the course adopted by Mr. FORBES in regard to his arrangements for the House Service, and have marked their feeling by passing a vote of censure by a majority of 14 against 6. The House Service System by contract had been exceedingly unpopular and unsatisfactory from a long time past, and it was only put up with during the pendency of the contract from the practical difficulty of getting rid of it. But its expiry was at hand, and when that came, none happier than the Commissioners: They would cry quits for ever and have the management of the House Service in their own hands. So far back as August 1886, that is eight months before the date of expiry, they had asked Mr. FORBES to prepare himself for the purpose, and he for his part had invariably entered with fullest sympathy into the project. He was sanguine of success, and the fate of the contract system had been doomed in anticipation. Since August, meetings had from time to time been held at which the subject was incidentally brought forward and the same mutual assurances and understanding were exchanged. Suddenly, however, only nine days before the 1st April when the contract terminated, Mr. FORBES makes an entire change of front, and not only refuses to have anything to do with the plan upon which the Commissioners had long set their heart, but expressed his determination to retain the contract system as well as the same men, GHASI and CHINTAHARAN, who had made themselves thoroughly obnoxious to the whole body of the ratepayers. Mr. FORBES'S fears were apparently worked upon by these men by representations of strikes amongst *methers* and stories of their absconding as having already commenced. The subject is always a difficult one in India. You have to deal with a limited class of the most ignorant part of the population, who regard their degrading occupation as the privilege of caste, who cannot be threatened with competition, and who are peculiarly liable to the influence of low intriguers and wire-pullers. But the difficulties in the present case seem, for the most part, those of neglect. They would never have arisen if Mr. FORBES had taken time by forelock and set about making his arrangements in good time. At any rate, if he had any good and

sufficient reasons for maintaining the system in tact, he should have taken the Commissioners into his confidence, and acted with their consent and approval. Having thus placed himself in the wrong, it was easy for the Magistrate-Chairman to lose his temper. He did so completely and suffered signally. He laid himself completely at the mercy of the Commissioners, and they were in no mood for giving quarter. The insolence of CHINTAHARAN was visited on the Chairman who was understood to protect him.

We truly sympathise with Mr. FORBES, though we cannot approve of his action. He is one of our best officers, as good as he is able.

THE *Dacca Gazette* reports a bloody affray which took place on the 21st April, in a field adjoining the villages of Banagram and Purvadi in the station of Keraniganj. It arose out of a social dispute among the Kapali tribe, and the upshot was HULLODHUR using his grass-cutting instrument on HURRY and GOOP, who both are lying in a precarious state in hospital.

The simplicity with which our contemporary notices the tribe or caste to which these people belong, is worth noticing. "There is a class of people called Kapali, who deal in jute and its manufacture," says the *Gazette*. A class of people who deal in jute and its manufacture, is far too vague a description. So far as cultivation of jute is concerned, it would apply to almost all classes of the peasantry in the Eastern Districts, Hindu and Mussulman. "Are Kapalis such rare birds in our contemporary's neighbourhood? They are at any rate not uncommon in the Tipperah District, from which we believe the editor hails. They have penetrated to the Maharaja's Territory. There are whole villages of Kapalis within the magistracy of Agartala.

The present writer had once to try at the Maharaja's Sessions a most interesting case of murder, involving a difficult point of Forensic Medicine, in which two Kapali women were charged with the murder of a girl of their family and the elders of the village with concealing the occurrence. They appeared like any respectable Hindu agriculturists. They worshipped the Doorga in due season, in the usual way, according to their means, through Brahman priests of their own. In color and physiognomy they were like other Hindus of their station in life. The principal defendant was a charming girl-wife, of a fair complexion. In Tipperah, Native as well as British, the Kapalis' characteristic occupation is to make bags of jute or other fibre. The same we believe is, or was the case in other parts of East Bengal.

In metropolitan Bengal, it is different. Here they have lost their original occupation. Indeed, we do not remember any Kapalis in these parts out of Calcutta. In town, they have, as a matter of course, taken up all sorts of trades and occupations. They have in consequence raised their circumstances, a few families ranking with the wealthy of Calcutta. Two of the leading Banians have been Kapalis, and one young man has got himself elected a Municipal Commissioner of the town.

Their priests too no longer depend on them but are shifting for themselves. One has raised himself to the position of Government Pleader in a District.

WE see that old Moolla ISMAEL, who was as good as a Woonghee under the old *régime*, has not been engulfed in the late change, but flourishes still at Mandalay. He must have played his cards well to have escaped ignominious death and torture perhaps in addition, from one or other of the parties. A British subject, and comparatively civilised, he was not likely to prove a traitor to Her Majesty. But then that was all the more reason for his victimization under the heels of the Golden Footed. But good honest THEEBAW! he has proved a genuine Buddhist prince. He has been wofully black-guarded. Whatever excesses were committed at his accession, none marked his virtual abdication. Without being cruel and vindictive himself, he had not even a son of the MEERUN type like MEER JAFFER to extinguish his foes and harass God's creatures. He has lost character for nothing, by gratuitous calumny by those who coveted his possessions. Suppose THEEBAW had been a MEER KASIM, where would have been poor ISMAEL? Where would have been the Whitemen at the capital of Ava-Burma? Where the pusillanimous foreigners in the King's service? Wherein the traitorous Italian Consul who invited the British to Burma and sent the poor King bound hand and foot into the hands of his enemy?

From having been a sort of minister of Commerce to the King, Moolla ISMAEL, now that he feels his head on his shoulders and no

mistake, is quietly tending to settle down to the position of merchant prince—the Moolk-oo-Toojar—which properly belongs to him. He is now groping into a sense of his duties as well as responsibilities. By last accounts, he was trying to institute measures against the too constant danger of fires in Burma. Now that, with the British Raj in Burma, the character of the architecture of Mandalay is undergoing a change, and substantial structures of brick are starting up in all directions, it is more than ever necessary to avoid fires. Accordingly, we see a notice calling a public meeting at his residence with the object of coming to a resolution to prohibit the erection of bamboo huts or wooden structures in the neighbourhood of masonry buildings. But how is a meeting to prevent people from running up combustible sheds? An agreement not to do so will hardly bind the parties to it, far less others. But Moolla ISMAEL is at the beginning of his British citizenship—after a great interval of pure Burmese experience—and will learn as he proceeds.

What they want at Mandalay is a municipality. There may be political reasons for not forcing all your new fangled Western ideas upon the Upper Burmese. Meanwhile, the state must supply all wants—exact every discipline.

WE are told that

"A volcano in Russia has begun to throw mud. It is not stated which political party in that country has secured the services of this volcano."

Whichever be that party, its opponents need not despair so long as the race of the British and Anglo-Indian masters, great and small, in the art of mud-throwing is not extinct. There are experts enough about us to spare who have acquired perfection by practice. The hoary-headed conductor of a *Moffusal* print who is always carrying the natives, in season and out of season, through the mire of his own production, and who loves specially to bespatter those of his countrymen who may be suspected of any kindness or justice to the people, has not found his occupation so successful in the long run that he may not be open to an engagement to withdraw, bag and baggage, and begin life again, even on the sere and yellow leaf, in fresh fields and pastures new. He would be an invaluable acquisition to any party in want of a self-acting everlasting literary dredger. He is certainly equal to half a dozen of your queer mud-evolving volcanoes.

There is something peculiarly appropriate in the resemblance. Our writer has all the violence of the living volcano, but the outcome of his activity has not the characteristics of brimstone and fire but of dirty earth and water. It is disagreeable enough, but is not formidable except from cumulative effect and from volume. It is matter in the wrong place, all the same.

THEY held a preliminary public meeting at Cockermouth in connection with the Jubilee celebration. It was proposed that the poor of the town be entertained to a dinner, tea, and concert, the rejoicings ending in fireworks. A share broker, ROBERT MITCHELL, moved the following amendment as an address to the Queen:—

"That we, your loyal subjects in the ancient borough of Cocker-mouth, do pray your Majesty (but not humbly) that in consideration of our having, during a period of 50 years, contributed our quota of £385,000 annually to your Majesty, as well as having also provided for your offspring in lavish manner, amounting in the 50 years, at compound interest, to no less than £84,000,000 sterling, in addition to which we have, at your Majesty's wish, provided lucrative and almost nothing-to-do situations for many of your German relations and others—we, therefore, in common reasoning, ask your Majesty to hand over one year's income (£385,000) to erect some useful and lasting memorial from a grateful Queen to her loving subjects for having, during so long a period, and under many trying circumstances, contributed so liberally towards the support of yourself, family, and friends."

The amendment was, of course, not passed. But it is not the less significant of the temper of the times. We do not condemn Mr. ROBERT MITCHELL as so many are ready to do, some in thoughtlessness, some in selfish timidity, and others in loud and lusty sycophancy. He is a brave man who has done an unpleasant duty. At the worst, he is the outcome of the age. Royalty might learn from him. We may all learn from our enemies, though we are not sure that Mr. MITCHELL may not be a true friend of the dynasty. We shall certainly not be surprised to hear that Her Gracious Majesty has taken a hint from this sturdy broker of Cockermouth. At any rate, there is nothing inherently absurd in the idea that our thrifty Mother, who is one of the richest in all her Empire, should lay out her income for one year for the relief of her subjects and the glory of God, on the auspicious completion of her fifty years' reign. If monarchy

continues much longer to be a British institution, it will be by such acts of statesmanlike kingcraft. Royalty must go out of the old narrow groove and seek the light and air.

DR. RUSH is of opinion that "the German people are largely indebted for their exemption from pulmonary diseases to the strength and volume which their lungs acquire in the practice of vocal music, which is well nigh universal among the people, extending from childhood to old age," and he therefore recommends singing as a part of physical education. We hope this RUSH is no kinsman or confrere—only diverted from the profession of medicine to that of music—of that Dr. RUSH who has been immortalised by the invective of COBBETT in return for his rashness in bringing to court for libel that master of Billingsgate. He looks like one having just opened a musical seminary. He cannot be much of a scientific medical man who ignores the constitutional nature of consumption. For the disease usually develops out of some original infirmity in the system, most often a hereditary taint in the blood, which not only defies drugs to cure, but makes every precaution, whether in the shape of good exercise or removal to a salubrious climate, unavailing.

We confess we do not pin much faith on his observation or doctrine. The cultivation of music seems to us a doubtful preservative against chest complaints. It may, no doubt, strengthen some lungs to the discomfort of their possessors' family and neighbours; it may multiply stentors to stump at "mass meetings;" but what the it will ward off disease is very problematical. In all probability, it will cause more disease than it will cure or prevent. The strain upon the lungs must weaken them. A year ago we lost a cousin from this cause. Innumerable have been the victims to the terrible disease from the desire to excel in singing. It is a strange prophylactic that Dr. RUSH prescribes. Popular experience and our instinct are against him.

HERE is solace to the majority—we mean the living ones. Mr. JAY GOULD, one of the bloated American plutocrats, is not at all happy. His complaint is going the round of the habitable globe. Whatever the rest of creation may think, he protests he is miserable indeed. He thus concludes his jeremiad:—

"I am kept on the drive now from early in the morning until late at night without any let up, day in and day out. The money I've made has enslaved me. With financial success, cares and responsibilities and trials innumerable go close together; there is no escaping these responsibilities and troubles. A rich man ought to be judged pretty generously. He has a good deal more to contend with than people who are not rich are apt to suppose."

Pity the sorrows of a poor rich man! The beggar has too great a load of dirt—out of the bowels of the earth—to carry! But

Are there no beggars at your gate,

Nor any poor about your lands?

If not, his case is still desperate. After the manner of overloaded ships in distress, he might get instant relief by sending his superfluous cargo out to the East. We would not mind paying freight. Or, if he cannot trust us, he may deduct the amount, as the Hindu devotee said who offered to make his goddess a costly offering if her divinity gave him a fortune. We need not enlarge on the spiritual benefit which good Mr. GOULD (to be gracious in anticipation) is sure to derive by diversion of his hoards in such a holy direction.

FLOODS are not so invariably a cause of happiness to the people as Sir RIVERS THOMPSON and other officials insist. Those of last year in the Tipperah district, which we regularly reported at the time, have proved more of a visitation than a godsend. Their homes washed away, their goods lost, their cattle killed, their crops destroyed, the people were thrown upon the relentless Mahajan. Soon their remaining substance was gone and their credit exhausted. And now their situation is most lamentable and their prospects gloomy indeed. Their lands have no doubt been enriched by the inundation deposit, but they are unable to utilise the advantage. The fields are *per force* left fallow—for want of seed. And in their present distress, seed rice, if they get it, has more chance of filling their belly than planted in the ground. Respectable villagers are going on one meal a day. The more wretched may get something to eat at longer intervals. The distress is worst in Parganas Baldakhal and Noornagar.

Such is the harrowing account that some of the papers give. But it must be a good deal exaggerated. Our own private correspondence

from that quarter makes no mention of calamity. The newspapers in question only report one authentic case of death by starvation in Kasba. In any case, the authorities will now inquire. But our contemporaries should have taken lesson from the fable of the silly boy who thought it such mighty fun to cry wolf! wolf! when there was no wolf. That "fun" proved his destruction.

AN unusually forcible storm burst over Calcutta and the surrounding tracts on the evening of Monday last. Fortunately, it was not of long duration, having continued only for twenty or twenty-five minutes and being followed by a shower. The gusts however came so thick and in such fury as to do no small damage to trees and to tiled huts. Several casualties are also reported to have occurred in the river, attended with the capsizing of passenger boats and the loss of some lives. A thunder storm also passed over Darjeeling on the Sunday previous, causing much damage to the "Rockville" by the fall of lightning. The storm visited also the upper provinces where railway trains, on the Lucknow-Sitapur line, were upset but no loss of life took place.

AN unhappy blunder crept into our last week's note in appreciation of the promise of His Excellency RAMA RAO'S Dewani lately begun. By a slip, not uncommon, we wrote Mysore instead of Travancore!

ONE hundred and seventeen persons have answered the Municipal advertisement for a Licence officer.

Another field day and day of dissection, unless Mr. CORTON follows the example set by Sir HENRY HARRISON on the last occasion—that of appointment of Treasurer!

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1887.

### THE HEJIRAH OF THE BOY VIZIER.

THE Boy Administration has come to grief. It would not, could not work. The Government of India is responsible for the result. It deliberately chose a boy to rule a state. We warned it from the beginning, but we protested in vain. The family of the late SALAR JUNG had many friends. He had done good service to both Hyderabad and the Empire in his time, and had besides died leaving a debt of thirty lacs. Who listens to a native journalist? There were many to recommend the boy. He was a prodigious boy,—they cried. Others hoped he must prove a chip of the old block. He was made Grand Vizier. He was petted and fondled. We saw that he was proving himself only a boy—a boy and nothing more. And we said so, on every occasion. The boy was only patted on the back, by Government as well as a loyal press. The boy lost his head altogether. He not only neglected the kingdom but insulted his master and sovereign. The end could not be long in coming. At last, the boy has "bolted." Boy to the last, he has crowned his boyhood by flying from his post.

The question now is, Who shall succeed the Boy? No boy, certainly! No broth of a boy, again! The obvious answer seems contained in the very asking. It is taken for granted that nobody is going to think otherwise. Under ordinary circumstances, the proper succession is analogous succession—that is, resemblance between predecessor and successor. Here the idea is out of the question. The more similitude, the worse shock to our common instincts! Yet "a boy for a boy" is a natural suggestion, much like "an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth." The latter was the primitive rule, by no means confined to the Holy Land of Jew and Nazarene and Arab. Nor is it an arbitrary principle but founded on reason. There is certainly in it the wild justice which BACON predicated of revenge. Yet, with advancing refinement, mankind



more and more turns away with loathing from the rule of thumb precision and the brutish harshness of the Levitical precept. One feels a sense of inadequacy and unfitness from the mechanical ethics. There is neither science nor Nature in it. Still the thing carries a show of reason. There is an effort at compensation, however unduly the principle might be carried out. A boy for a boy has not anything like that recommendation. There is nothing in it beyond a verbal plausibility—a mere play upon words. None but an idiot would seriously contend for such a principle. It would be the perpetuation of an accident, and an unfortunate accident. If on the last occasion a boy was appointed, that was not because a boy was preferred, but because the boy was well spoken of and also, for the truth ought to be told, because the boy was his father's son and was expected to display the precocity that his father showed and that was believed to run in the family. There is no more excuse for proceeding to fish for a boy because a boy was accepted, rightly or wrongly, on the last occasion. It would be a senseless affectation of symmetry. The last case was on all hands regarded as an exception, and an exception only proves the contrary rule, but can never be allowed to be raised into a precedent. No more puerility, therefore! No more experiments to discover latent genius or potential statesmanship. No more sentimental dependence upon the inherent capacity of gentlemen within their teens to save nations or guide the vessel of state!

We may be derided for a weak combativeness in raising giants for the exercise of our arms against them and the glory of overcoming them. We may be told that there are no possibilities of the kind against which we are providing. In fact, we are liable to be regarded as the disseminator of needless alarms. We know better, however. It is the unlikely that is always taking place, said a great statesman. If that is true of Europe, how much truer is it of Asia! Here, in the East, the confusion of the West is worse confounded—the uncertainty is the only certainty. There is no knowing what may be the counsels of Bureaucracy. In the arcana of a despotism at the mercy of its own agents and uninformed by public opinion, any tomfoolery may be matured and shot upon a stunned world. To go no further, was any tomfoolery worse than that which has been enacted in Hyderabad? We refer not to the shame of the long past but to the more moderate imbecilities of late years. Take the very appointment of SALAR the Second. Could a worse degradation of the art of government be conceived than to trust the helm of state in such prentice hands? And where is the guarantee that the same thing may not be repeated?

We are the less able to ignore the contingency in view of the names that have been put forward in connection with the vacancy. These are Nawab KHOOORSHED JAH, Nawab BASHIROOD DOWLAH, Nawab VIKAROOOL OMRAH, and Nawab MUNEEROOL MOOLK. These names have from the beginning been telegraphed from Hyderabad and Bombay to Calcutta and Simla and elsewhere and have been retelegraphed from Simla and Calcutta back to Hyderabad and other parts of India as well as to England, and they have appeared in all newspapers as those within which the selection is to be confined. This seems to us a gratuitous assumption in so far at least as they are all Hyderabad names and all Mussulman. We have always set our face against the notion that Hyderabad can be governed by only a Mussulman minister. The

popular idea is that a Mussulman state must have a Mussulman Vizier as a Hindu state must have a Hindu *Mantri*. This is a mistake, as experience shows. Indeed, all history proves the contrary. It is then too easily taken for granted that Hyderabad is Mahomedan. Mahomedan the city necessarily is, as the capital of a Mahomedan Court, but not the country. The Deccan is essentially Hindu. We hope the Government of India will never countenance the religious pretensions of bigots. It ought to take a leaf out of the book of the Moguls in India. In Hyderabad, there has always been the freest toleration for all creeds. The state has supported both churches. There has been no political disability for the Hindus who have held posts in all departments, even to the highest. Why shall not there be room in the Deccan for another and a better CHUNDOD LAL? Why, if the Nizam should have no objection, should not the knowledge and talents of a RAMA RAO be tried in a broader field? Why might not either of the accomplished Hindu veterans, SASHIA SASTRI and MADHAVA RAO, or the Parsee veteran, DADABHAI NAOROJI, with his unique familiarity with affairs in many Continents, be called to put Hyderabad in the path of progress? Then there is at least a dozen others, if less distinguished, quite capable and not untried men from among whom the choice might be made. If the profession of Islam be deemed a *sine qua non*, Mussulmans are not wanting in the Queen's broad Empire. There is a legitimate objection to adventurers like those that have flocked from Upper India. But we have in mind such men as Meer SHAHAMIT ALI and Nawab ABDUOL LUTEEF Bahadoor of tried abilities and integrity, who would command respect in any country.

Of course, if the right sort of men may be had in Hyderabad, nothing so good. If the Nizam could get a minister at home, why should he go abroad? We do not know and do not believe that he has any men who may be pitted against the names just mentioned, still if he has tolerable material among his own subjects, His Highness ought undoubtedly to utilise it, if only to improve the home produce. Doubtless, in a large Indian kingdom, there are many men of parts and local knowledge. But, unless they belong to the court, and have a great social status, they have no chance. An outsider without a handle to his name may go and be exalted above the heads of the highest nobles, but a native Vizier must be a great Mansabdar and wealthy Omrah. Or else, the accomplished Syed HOSSEIN BELGRAMI, who has been long enough there to be regarded as a native, might well indulge the hope. In Syed ABDUL HUQ, the Nizam has a remarkable officer who has not only been raised to the peerage but has also amassed wealth enough: He will yet be Premier, but his time is not yet. The choice, therefore, now is practically confined between the four names which have already become familiar to the public in this connection for the last three weeks. It is there the danger lurks at which we have taken alarm. Let us explain.

These four are all honorable names, of men eminent for their rank, representatives of great houses. The first three—Nawabs KHOOORSHED JAH, BUSHEER-OD-DOWLAH, and VIKAROOOL OMRAH—belong to the same family. They are all the chiefs of the SHUMS-OOOL OMRAH family, the first house in the kingdom. They are, in consequence, the premier nobles of the country. They are also the richest men in Hyderabad. Their possessions are vast, equal to principalities. With or without office, they command the greatest in-



fluence. They occupy the position of territorial Dukes. They are allied by marriage to the family of the Nizam. So far as hereditary rank, social status, wealth, influence at court or in the country goes, the Vizierat would become any one of them. But one of them is too young, and two have too little personal weight, so that the remaining third is the sole eligible member of the family. That member is the first named KHOORSHED JAH, AMIROOL OMRAH—the lord of lords—the AMER-i-KABER *par excellence*. He is the eldest representative of the House—the SHUMSOOL OMRAH of the day, and as such the leading noble. He is not only mature in years but also in experience. He has a noble presence, an intellectual face. His character is thoroughly respectable. He is one of the few nobles who have habits of business. He manages his vast estates all himself. If the choice be restricted to the country, he is every way the best man for the office.

The fourth name is that of SALAR JUNG's younger brother. Nawab MONEEROOL MOOLK is not only young in years and without any training, but is still flighty and frivolous in character. It would be lamentable if our Government were led to espouse his claims, though it would be like itself. But are our rulers going to repeat their last blunder? Is it possible they could hope that where the elder boy of the family failed, the younger would succeed?

Nawab MONEEROOL MOOLK is a nice young man, no doubt. So is VIKAROO OMRAH. But we want for the government of states something better than mere boys. BASHEEROOD DOWLAH is no boy and is a very respectable and intelligent man for that matter. But he is far too quiet in his disposition for such a change. Indeed, he has not the ambition for it, though, of course, he will not decline it.

#### THE RESOLUTION ON THE SALARIES COMMISSION.

SIR RIVERS THOMPSON'S Resolution on the report of the Salaries Commission gives glimpses of the report itself. It is an interesting document. Apart from the decision of the Government of the questions referred to the Commission, it has a subsidiary value in the exposition of the views of the Government on several administrative matters. The Salaries Commission was appointed, it will be remembered, on 21st March 1885 for the purpose of reorganizing the system of correspondence, reports, and returns between the various offices under the Government. The growth of correspondence, it was constantly complained, had reached such proportions as to absorb a too great share of the attention of superior officers which should otherwise have been more usefully devoted to larger and more important questions connected with the administration. While a reform of the system of clerical business in the offices was indicated as the more important point to which the Commission should direct its attention, the question of salaries was also not to be overlooked. The views of the Government as regards a revision of the salaries of ministerial officers were thus set forth in the Resolution by which the Commission was appointed:—

"This question was considered in 1866 and 1867 by a Committee of which Mr. V. H. Schach was President, and a new scale of salaries was brought into effect in 1868. Since that time, although there have been numerous alterations and improvements of a more or less restricted character, and although the pay of very many individual officers has been increased, there has been no general or systematic revision of salaries. Meanwhile the rise in prices and in the cost of living, which was anticipated by Mr. Strachey in 1865, has continued at constantly accelerating speed, and for some time past signs have

been apparent that the effects of the reforms introduced in 1868 have been exhausted, and that a further advance must be made if the ministerial service is to be maintained in a condition of efficiency. In the case of the superior branches of the public service, the necessity of granting some increase of emoluments, and of making that increase general and not individual in its distribution, has been fully recognised and acted upon. The salaries of the Subordinate Executive and Judicial Services have been raised. The pay and position of the Sub-Deputy Collectors have similarly been improved; and within the last three years the Opium Department has been reorganized with the result of a material increase of pay and enhanced promotion. In the case of these classes of officers, therefore, who come immediately above ministerial officers in the official scale, Government has admitted an increase of emoluments to be necessary. These officers are (in the case of natives of this country) drawn from much the same social classes as their immediate superiors, the difference between them being due to accidents of education, wealth, and personal ability, rather than to accidents of birth. The social habits of both classes are so far as the smaller means of the poorer members admit, similar; and causes which tend to increase the cost of living for the one class will operate with at least equal force for the other. These facts, coupled with the numerous representations—from treasury accountants, from district and divisional sheristadars, and many others—which have with increasing frequency been pressed upon the Lieutenant-Governor, raise a strong presumption that the time has come for a general enquiry into, and a revision of, the rates of pay drawn by the ministerial officers of Government in this Province."

Such were the instructions in the light of which the Commission was to set about its task. They indicated the views of the Government with sufficient clearness and force. Indeed, the growth of correspondence, often in matters of petty detail involved a sad waste of time and power on the part of higher officers, and an effective simplification of the system had become a question of urgent necessity. Sir RIVERS THOMPSON'S views on the subject of a general increase of the salaries of ministerial officers are also explicit enough, while they are conceived in a thoroughly liberal spirit. The Government instructions, in fact, left the Commission in no doubt as to the character of the work which was expected from it. A thorough reform of the system of business in the district and divisional offices had to be devised which, while it would set the hands of responsible officers free to take up the more important questions relating to their charge, will at the same time lead to no loss of efficiency in their grasp and knowledge of details. The Commission was further to suggest a scale of increased salaries in keeping with the altered circumstances of the times.

The recommendations of the Commission have been, it must be owned, conceived in the thorough-going spirit which was naturally to be expected from the terms of its instructions. Its proposals for the simplification of official correspondence involve, indeed, a fundamental change of system, and appear in consequence to have small chance of being accepted by the Government. The Commission recommends the substitution of a system of control by inspection for that which is at present exercised by means of returns. Leaving for another occasion a fuller discussion of this part of the Commission's work, it is to be observed that in respect of its scheme of increase of salaries, the Government does not now appear to be prepared to go far enough. Probably the financial exigencies of the times have forced the Government to adopt an altered tone on the matter, but the following remarks of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON hardly leave much room for the hope as to a general and satisfactory revision of salaries. The late Lieutenant-Governor says:—

"Sir Rivers Thompson entertains the belief that in the classes from which amla are taken, as in most other classes of the community, the standard of comfort has in recent years risen, and will continue to rise in the future; but the question whether this is so or not is not, in his judgment, one which it is necessary for Government in the present connection to consider. From the innumerable applications which come before the Government for employment in the Public Service in all its grades and departments, there can be little doubt that the supply of well qualified and educated men far exceeds the appointments which are at the disposal of Government. So long as the salaries offered suffice to secure the services of competent men, and do not fall con-

spicuously below the emoluments which similarly qualified persons can secure elsewhere, the presumption must, he thinks, be that the present scale of pay is sufficiently high. It is of course necessary that the salaries of Government servants should be equal in amount to the incomes which may be secured by successful private enterprise, because the certainty of the former and the prospect offered of a pension on retirement materially affects the question."

Without questioning the force of these observations which may be just enough from the point of view of large employers of labor, they must strike as contradictory to the spirit of the Government Resolution of May 1885.

### THE METHOD OF OFFICIAL SANITATION.

THE administration of the jails in Bengal for 1886 appears to have been a great success. This success means the success of the public agitation on the subject, both here and at home. Were it not for the activity of that agitation, and the exposure in Parliament by Mr. O'DONNELL of the excessive rate of jail mortality, it is much doubtful whether the attention of the Government of Bengal would have been drawn to what were matters of common complaint among the people in general. Nor must we withhold from Dr. LETHBRIDGE, the Inspector-General, a large share of the credit for whatever improvement has been effected in the system. Dr. LETHBRIDGE has been in charge of this Department for some years, and the period of his incumbency has been marked by steady improvement. We congratulate him on his success, and wish the example of his personal interest and activity were more widely followed by heads of other Departments where there is equally great room for reform. Some of these Departments, however, seem to exist for the maintenance of some big sinecures for the great Services, and apparently fulfil their *raison d'être* by the manufacture annually of annual reports and of a set number of other returns and reports. We have, for instance, often inquired as to the tangible requital which the province receives for all its expenditure of money upon the Sanitary Department. Its utility appears to exhaust itself in the submission of a bulky annual report, but it is a report of ever-recurring suggestions which it seems to be nobody's business to carry into effect. What has it done since its creation in the matter of village sanitation, for one thing? Nothing that one knows of beyond making suggestions.

In the meantime, look at the state of the country, while the head of the Sanitary Department enjoys the breezes of his mountain home. The old reservoirs of water, excavated before any Sanitary Department existed, are gone to destruction. The towns and villages are, as a rule, dependent for their water supply upon these decayed silted up remnants of old, and where they do not lie on a river, have to suffer from a water famine year after year. This is the case in municipalities as well as in the Road cess tracts, and indeed is the normal state of the country, as regards its water-supply. Even where there are rivers, they are only resorted to for drawing the supply of drinking water, the receptacles of dirty water at hand serving for other ordinary purposes of domestic use. We do not, of course, say that the Sanitary Department is idle in pointing out the necessity of reclaiming the old ponds and of excavating new ones where they are necessary. The pages of its reports bear ample testimony of its suggesting activity in this respect. But its interest stops there. Probably it may plead that it is only an advising department, and that it is none of its fault if its advice

is not acted upon. There is, indeed, some truth in this plea. The Sanitary Commissioner has no direct power over the municipal and other local authorities, that have a *quasi* independence of their own, and are only subject to the orders of the Government. Nevertheless, much might be done if the Sanitary Department were animated by a spirit of personal interest in its work. A great deal depends upon the activity of Departmental officers. If the local authorities are slow to carry out the suggestions of the Sanitary Department, it might easily bring the pressure of the Government to bear upon those local authorities. That of course only in the last resort and after its own influence had failed. But we are not aware that this personal influence is exercised on any occasion. The procedure followed is perfunctory in the highest degree. Some pleasant morning a particular tract is visited by some subordinate of the Sanitary Commissioner, who, of course, is far too superior a man to trouble himself with local inspections of any but capital and suburban cities. The local authorities are represented or not, as the case may be, and after the lapse of some interval receive a lengthy report which points out the sanitary defects of the area from the least to the greatest, and makes a long array of suggestions which are bewildering in their multiplicity, and simply impracticable in their financial aspect. Viewed by the eye of a sanitary expert, imperfections must abound in every locality. But there are imperfections and imperfections. Action may wait in respect of some, while it may be urgent in regard to others. No discrimination is exercised, however, in pointing out where action must be immediately taken, and the element of personal interest is altogether absent. It seems to be taken for granted, as it were, that the Department's work is done with merely reporting upon the place, and it is, indeed, very curious to observe that it seldom turns back to see whether anything came out of its reporting.

### SHOCKING! v. QUAIN.

OUR Anglo-Indian contemporaries report:—

"Mr. Alma Tadema has a quaint iron bell, copied from an old German or Dutch model, in the shape of a woman with enormous petticoats, which hangs from a wrought-iron bracket, while streaming hair flies out in ten rays. It is placed eight or ten feet from the floor, and is rung by a long iron chain, delicately wrought, which hangs straight down from it."

Quaint, indeed! How civilised society, which has carried refinement so far as seriously to intend banishing its pets unless decently dressed and "posted" up in the etiquette of *ton* and is shocked at the outrage committed by house-hold furniture in openly displaying their lower extremities—how society can permit one of its members to indulge himself in such an odious—such a shocking toy—is a wonder. We wonder what Sir CHARLES TURNER and Mr. Secretary PEACOCK and the rest of the men of fine nerves and correct sensibilities on the Public Service Commission, who were rendered so miserable by the *Aurita Bazar* editor's vicious propensity to belch, in season and out of season, and scatter about in the faces of respectable men all sorts of nauseous draughts and offensive facts, thinks of this wicked sport of the painter! What! did no other device or figure suggest itself to the fertile brain of the wicked man than a caricature of poor womankind. Professor WORDSWORTH and the English philanthropists on Madame RUKMINIS' Committee had better leave learned ladies among the Indian low castes for a season to the care of their own friends and—foes, and of the law which is lord over all, to come to the rescue of the ever "subjected" and now insulted sex at Home. Surely, the age of chivalry is gone! Lovely woman reduced to a bell! You might just as well make an end of it by burning her in effigy. The object can not be mistaken. The tongue of the bell is clearly intended to suggest her loquaciousness. And this is the artist upon whose works the British public hang in rapt admiration! And this comes of the modern liberality of encouraging outlandish men and ways to the neglect of our own. The man is a foreigner and his residence in England has done him no more good than, say, the Baboos derive from their European sojourn. In fact, he may after all turn out to be a Baboo in disguise. The thing is worthy of Asiatic barbarity.

A bell in the shape of a woman with huge petticoats and the whole in iron! It is a libel and something worse. It is an insult to civilisation, with a shocking suggestiveness.

But they strain at a gnat who quietly swallow a camel.

# REIS & RAYYET

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## The Week.

THE *Pioneer* contradicts the report of the defeat said to have been suffered by the Amir's troops in a conflict with the Shinwaris in the Khyber. It was evidently due to confounding the Shinwaris with the Shiranis—an altogether different people—who had made one of their periodical little raids, and, after committing the regulation amount of mischief and havoc, had as usual retired on a moderate exhibition of force. Afghan and British are equally so used to this measure of anarchy and rapine that they both regard it as wholly a matter of no importance. So at least the *Pioneer* regards it.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY leaves Calcutta for Darjeeling on Friday the 20th instant, and is likely, it is reported, to return by the end of June. He will, we believe, next go to Behar in July to hold the Durbar at Patna.

THE cyclone, as it is usual now to call every storm, of Monday the 2nd May was felt at Rangoon where it raged to a later hour in the night and caused much damage to the houses, and more considerable loss on the river.

It is reported that Nawab BUSHIR-UD-DOWLAH Bahadur has been appointed Prime Minister at Hyderabad. He has been recalled from England where he had gone to represent the Nizam at the Jubilee celebration, that function being devolved upon Nawab ZUFFER JUNG Bahadur, his nephew.

THE testimonial given by his friends to Lord ULICK BROWNE, on his retirement from this country, took the shape of cash, and between three to four thousand rupees was subscribed and remitted. He has now acknowledged the honor and expressed his intention to spend the sum in a library of standard books.

The forms of Testimonials are determined by the character or pursuits, the wishes or wants of their objects, unless prudence or delicacy enforces a different suggestion. In the case of a nobleman driven to seek employment in the Indian Civil Service, delicacy may perhaps be dispensed with. The promptings of prudence are probably all the other way.

THE modest gentleman who occasionally enlightens the public from Rawal Pindi in the columns of the *Indian Mirror* says:—"In my last, I predicted that sooner or later there would be scarcity in the Province and my prediction has been verified"—as it could not help being, some time or other. From his way of croaking, he seems too glad that his credit is saved to spare a sigh for the sufferers. He continues:—

"For Famine Relief Works have already commenced in certain Districts. In Lahore and the cities, where food-grains and the other necessities of life are selling somewhat dearer than in other places, domestic servants are clamouring for increase of wages. Mr. Lyall has scarcely assumed the reins of Government when he has to grapple with a famine, the magnitude of which is not known at present. The brazen sky and the dust-storms, which generally follow now-a-days in the wake of a cloudy atmosphere, which is of rare occurrence, prognosticate that there is a great calamity in store for us."

THE *Englishman* writes on the 9th instant:—

"The appointment of Mr. K. S. (sic.) Gupta to officiate as Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue will cause much jubilation among our Bengali contemporaries, and much searching of heart in the ranks of the Bengal Civil Service. Coming, as it does, soon after Mr. Cotton's appointment as Chairman of the Corporation, the idea will suggest itself to many that Sir Steuart Bayley is resolved, at all hazards, to gratify the aspirations of young Bengal. But we believe that such a view is altogether libellous, and that what is really proved is that the Lieutenant-Governor means to be guided, in the distribution of appointments, by the simple principles of fair dealing, without favour to any individual or to any class. Mr. Gupta has long been known as an efficient district officer, and certainly deserves any promotion that might be going when it came to his turn. We understand that the appointment was offered to more than one of Mr. Gupta's seniors, and refused by them, and if he had been passed over, in spite of his good reputation, it could have been on no other ground than that he was not a European."

"Who's in there in the dark sanctuary?" demands the priest. "I have not eaten the fruit" (offered to the gods) is the answer of uneasy conscience.

A NOTIFICATION of the Government of India is published in the *Gazette* announcing that the Queen's birth-day will be observed in India on the 24th instant.

THE Indian Military Police now in Upper Burma is 11,000 strong, which will be increased to 17,000 in course of this month. There is besides a body of 6,000 Burmese. All military posts will then be relieved by the police, only one military brigade being retained at Mandalay. The Commander-in-Chief is anxious that the troops should be relieved of police duty, if the country quiets down, when it is believed a police force of 20,000, half Indian and half Burmese, will be sufficient for both Upper and Lower Burma.

WE read:—

"An incident, recalling to mind the terrible Johur mentioned in Tod's *Rajasthan*, occurred at Mhairwarra a few weeks ago. A Brahmin village, not far distant from Neemuch, passed some time ago under the boundary operations into the possession of the Tonk Durbar. The Brahmins had for generations paid twelve rupees annually to Oodeypore as a sort of protection fee, but the Tonk authorities assessed the village at five hundred rupees yearly. The villagers were in despair and finding all their appeals for remission useless, they resolved upon the institution of Johur. Three men and four women presented themselves to be burnt as a willing sacrifice, but the women would not hear of men dying, and at the last moment two females became frightened and withdrew. The other two victims ascended the pyre and bravely met their deaths. Just as the flames commenced to envelop them, they called upon the onlookers to send their sons to cut off their hands and send them to the proper tribunals as ghastly proofs of the occurrence, for otherwise, they said, it might be believed they had not perished. The sons of the two women accordingly stepped forward, hands were held out and these were cut off a few minutes later, and the victims had been sacrificed, the Brahmins meanwhile slashing themselves with knives and scattering blood on the fire. The villagers subsequently took the charged hands to Oodeypore, where an inquiry into the tragic affair is now being held."

These "Johurs" used to be events occurring at long intervals. They are getting to be far too common. The matter is worth careful inquiry.

BABU KRISHNA BEHARI SEN is no more editor of the *Liberal*.

THE Duke and Duchess of Connaught left Bombay by the P. and O. mail steamer *Siam* on Friday, the 13th May.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

MR. WALLACE, Professor of Agriculture in the Edingburgh University, will be shortly in India to make a study of the Indian system of agriculture.

THE Tigris has overflowed its banks, laying the country around Bagdad under water. A large quantity of grain has been destroyed.

SIR CHARLES ARBUTHNOT, Commander-in-Chief of the Madras army, having returned from Burma, goes to Ootacamund.

A BUXAR correspondent of the *Indian Daily News* says that, in consequence of the brisk demand for wheat in England, the price of the commodity in India has gone up Rs. 50 per hundred maunds. The Calcutta and Bombay firms are making large purchases.

THERE will be on 1st June next an Exhibition at Madrid of the products of the Philippine Archipelago.

THE foundation stone of the Imperial Institute will be laid by the Queen on 4th July next. A scheme of management by a thoroughly representative Committee is in preparation. The English subscriptions to the Fund amount to over £150,000.

THE value of merchandise imported into British India in 1886-87 was Rs. 61,81,19,608 against Rs. 55,65,58,655 of the previous year, and that of merchandise exported Rs. 88,48,10,354 as against Rs. 83,88,12,637. Treasure was imported to the value of about eleven crores, against nearly fifteen crores and a half, while the export was Rs. 1,72,04,261 against Rs. 1,10,82,376. The gross amount of import duty, including duty on salt, realised was Rs. 2,49,42,786 against Rs. 2,25,61,994, and of export duty Rs. 70,84,224 against Rs. 74,38,495. Altogether, there was increase both in imports and exports, to the extent of Rs. 6,88,45,352 and Rs. 4,18,39,530 respectively.

THE import of gold to India during the year 1886-87 was of the value of Rs. 2,82,85,611, while the export was Rs. 65,64,929. The import and export of silver during the same period were respectively Rs. 8,21,97,613 and Rs. 1,06,39,332. The balance was thus in favor of imports to the value of Rs. 9,32,78,963.

THE Government of India Survey Department is engaged upon a map showing the density of population in India which will be shortly issued.

THE experiment of supplying Australian fruit to the mother country during the late Colonial and Indian Exhibition having proved successful, a regular trade has now been opened between the two countries.

THE 6th, 14th, 15th, 18th and 19th Bengal Cavalry Regiments, and the 2nd and 3rd Panjab Cavalry and Guides send each a Native Officer to England for the Jubilee celebration. Captain MUIR having been to Simla to receive his orders, goes to Bombay whence the party sail by the mail of the 13th May.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made by the Government of India, with Messrs. THOMAS COOK and SON, for the conveyance of Mahomedan pilgrims from India to Jeddah. Tickets for the journey will be obtainable at the office of every Collector or Deputy Commissioner in India, the steamer fares being Rs. 60 first class, Rs. 40 second class, and Rs. 30 third class, and return fares for those classes Rs. 90, Rs. 60 and Rs. 45. There are other provisions made for the advantage of pilgrims. The arrangements made with the company will hold good for three years, being terminable at the option of either contracting party. The Government guarantees the firm against actual loss up to Rs. 2,000 in the first year, and Rs. 1,000 annually for the remaining two years.

IN replying to an address presented to him by the Lahore Association, Mr. LYALL, the new Lieutenant-Governor of the Panjab, said with reference to the prayer for representative Government, that the Panjab would soon have a Legislature of its own. He could not say how far it would be constituted on a representative basis, but the tendencies of the times went in favour of having new institutions organised on representative principles.

THE motion of Mr. GLADSTONE for enquiry into the charge of falsehood brought by the *Times* against Mr. DILLON, has been rejected by 317 against 233 votes, an amendment moved by Sir EDWARD CLARKE, Solicitor-General, to the effect that the House declined to treat the matter as a breach of privilege, being then carried.

LORD CROSS, Secretary of State for India, said, in reply to a question, that Lord DUFFERIN had telegraphed to the effect that his information did not confirm the report relating to the victory gained by the Shinwaris in the Khyber, and that no fighting had taken place in the vicinity of the Khyber. An engagement had apparently taken place between the Amir's troops and the Hotaks, both sides claiming the victory, but the Viceroy had no reasons to believe that the Amir was not holding his own.

THE Marquis of Salisbury, speaking at a banquet given at the "Criterion," said that he believed the nation would "by a sharp expression of opinion stop the grotesque and melancholy farce which is being played in the House of Commons."

IN March last Northern Sweden was enlivened by the rising of the Northern Lights. These auroral displays usually commenced at 8 P. M. and continued till midnight, the height being reached at 11. They usually appeared in the forms of streamers and clouds, the tints being chiefly white and yellow. M. LEMSTROM has come to the conclusion that the frequency and brilliancy of auroral displays bear an inverse ratio to the number and intensity of thunderstorms.

OLYMPUS is not all the same. Paradise too has its Pandemonium. And devils are devils, be they ever so godly or near the gods. Nor do the devils spare their own chiefs—we mean masters. The gods suffer as much as mortals. The Olympian organ—chief of periodical letter press in the East—is not above our human liability to err. Here is the confession.

"The 5th May, 1887.—No. 2077 I.—Erratum.—In Foreign Department Notification No. 813 I., dated the 16th February, 1887, conferring the title of Shams-ul-ulama on certain gentlemen as a personal distinction—under the head 'North-Western Provinces and Oudh,' read "Maulavi Zaka-ullah" for "Maulvi Taká-ullah"; "Maulavi Abul Husain" for "Maulavi Abdul Husain"; and under the head 'Madras,' read "Haji Maulavi Ruk-ud-din Sayyid Muhammad Khaderi" for "Haji Maulavi Bakr-ud-din Sayyid Muhammad Khaderi."

WE take the following interesting passage from the Address of Sir JOHN MILLAIS at the last annual Conversazione of the Sheffield School of Art on the Art of Today:—

"In acknowledging the vote of thanks, Sir John Millais said he felt it a privilege to have an opportunity of referring to a branch of modern art with which they were all familiar. He alluded to illustration. He had been a humble pioneer in that direction, and he was succeeded by very great illustrators—Fred Walker, Pinwell, and Caldecott. Some of the weekly publications contained such remarkably good art that he was proud to call attention to it. He would first instance *Punch*. There was the veteran Tenniel, whom he remembered as one of the best antique draughtsmen in the Royal Academy. They would observe from Tenniel's cartoons the admirable training the man had had. And then there was Du Maurier; could anything be more charming than the beautiful English women and girls, those fine young athletes and guardsmen whom he placed in society or in Rotten Row? Then, turn over the page and look at Charles Keene's work, his rustic persons, his gardeners, and railway porters. Look at the perspective of his railway lines and those trim little bits of English scenery which he delighted to draw. Then there was Sambourne, who was remarkable in his line of work, distinguished entirely from the others; and also Furniss. Although he was himself a painter, he was bound to own candidly that a great many of our fine pictures would be forgotten when the works of these men would give pleasure; they were the history of our time, as Hogarth's were. But not alone in *Punch* was this excellence of modern illustration. Look at the *Graphic*, look at the *Illustrated London News*, and the works those papers contained. Those marvellous drawings of Woodville—the spirit and go, and the mastery over difficulties. Then Overend and Bartlett were excellent artists, and he could mention a score of others. He ought not to omit two names—Sullivan, a draughtsman in *Fun*, who did most charming work, and Corbould in *Judy*, who drew horses better than any man since the days of John Leech. He next mentioned the name of Abbey, an American by birth, who was thoroughly imbued with English feeling, and referred his hearers to drawings by this artist recently published by an American magazine illustrating the old song of "Sally in our Alley." He regarded these as the most beautiful illustrations he had seen since the days of Fred Walker."

That is as generous as true. Yet it required all the courage of the founder of PreRaphaelitism to do this justice and acknowledge the artistic excellence of the poor periodical draughtsmen.

THE Ajmere new weekly, the *Jubilee and Rajputana Herald*, prefers the following charges against the acting Minister of the Marwar Raj :—

Mr. Hurdal Singh of Jodhpore notoriety is actually playing a very dangerous game in Jodhpore. Not long ago several of the leading men of Marwar had been deported from their country for no other fault than for representing their grievances to the powers that be. Mr. Singh does not tolerate people who may be bold enough to lift up their voice against oppression. Vakeel Chand Mull has been deported out of his own country for resisting Mr. Singh's highhandedness. For similar reasons Vakeels Kallian Singh of Raipooora, Natthu Ram of Pokoron, Shajee Seo Lall of Koochamon and Vakeel Josi Mull Chand of Nimaj had been at one time deported out of Marwar. But seeing the agitation in our columns on the subject of Vakeel Chand Mull's deportation; the Raj Officials under the instructions of the Agent Colonel Powlett and Mr. Hurdal Singh have now rescinded their order against the above mentioned gentlemen. It is certainly not the sense of justice which has induced the officials to call back the banished men in Marwar; it is just to serve Mr. Singh's own purpose that they have been called back and as soon as that purpose will be accomplished, they shall go back to the wall again. These deported men have been brought back simply to keep them safe from combining with the Thakur Sahib of Auwa and they are already employed to induce him to servile submission to the illegal dictates of the Agent Colonel Powlett. This is no doubt a very serious game and the man Hurdal Singh is quite equal to his task."

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HERE is indeed a "grand old gardener" who may well "smile at the claims of long descent" :—

"A working gardener at Luton has received a cheque for £72,000, which he has just recovered from Chancery. A gentleman in the town had advanced him £100, with which to prosecute his claim to the money, and one of the first acts of the fortunate claimant after receiving tidings of his good fortune was to call on his friend and present him with a cheque for £1,100."

It is not so easy to repay £100 with eleven times the sum, even out of such a magnificent windfall, as many might suppose. The gentleman is probably a true one and deserved every penny of the addition. It is not every man of fortune who has the heart to make such an advance. The gardener was lucky from the beginning in the possession of such a friend.

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HERE is a most interesting insight into German life :—

"In the richest German household the mistress superintends the kitchen and lends a hand to the cook. There are dishes which she always makes with her own hands, because her Fritz likes them so. She may boast thirty-two quarterings on her escutcheon and be very proud of her lineage, but she has no nonsensical ideas about its being degrading to put on a canvas apron, lard a piece of veal, make jams, or dole out with her own hands prunes that are to be put into the potato stew. She keeps her best attire for Sundays, and makes it serve on many of these festal days, for she does not follow fashion blindly or in a hurry. On ordinary days she dresses with a plainness that would excite the contempt of a French woman; but then her culinary pursuits do not prevent from being by far the intellectual superior of her French or Belgian sister. She reads serious books that she may be able to converse as an equal with her well-taught sons; she practises music that she may remain on a level with the daughters, who are trained to be brilliant pianists; and she finds time to read the newspapers, in order that she may understand what her Fritz has to say about the topics of the day."

These Teutons have so many things in common with their Eastern Aryan brethren!

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A CLOSE union between two of Plutus's children in the Western Presidency is reported. DAMODAR THAKARSI MOOLJEE, one of the great millionaires of Bombay city, has just married his son to the daughter of the late MORARJI GOKULDAS. MOOLJEE gave a grand party on the 28th Ultimo, attended by every section of the community. His grounds were handsomely decorated and splendidly lighted up. In the absence in Madras and Bombay of the vast and often straggling houses of the rich on this side, they resort to *pandals* and *shamianas*. So here MOOLJEE stuck up canvas whereunder eating and drinking was provided in profusion, here for Hindus, there for Parsees, and so on.

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SULIMAN KUDR SYUD WAHID ALI MIRZA, KHAUS KUDR SYUD FARHAD MIRZA, HATIM KUDR SYUD KAUKAUS MIRZA, ANJAIN KUDR SYUD DAUD MIRZA, SYUD JAFIR MIRZA, and SYUD BAKIR MIRZA, sons of the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, are *Gazetted* to have the privilege of exemption from personal appearance in the Civil Courts.

## Editorial Notes.

NOT long ago the world was scarcely conscious of the being of Bhamo. Even in India, it was pretty much ignored, though of course its political importance as the chief town of Upper Burma on the Chinese frontier was recognised by the several Governments concerned as well as by travellers and commercial pioneers and adventurers. Since passing of the country into British hands, it at once forced itself into prominent notice. Bhamo must be secured and garrisoned by any Power that would rule Upper Burma. Bhamo would be the natural base of any native operations against European intruder. It was there that any legitimate movement would concentrate its forces for a final struggle. Bhamo too would be the object of filibusterers from China who might be tempted to take advantage of the confusion in the country. All eyes, native and foreign, friendly or unfriendly, were turned to Bhamo.

So Bhamo was secured, and it had the luck to be placed under able hands. Captain ADAMSON is a strong man but not exasperating. He is just, substantially and for the country and the times, but he will stand no nonsense. If he is a trifle severe, even stern, he is all the better appreciated by the bloody Mongolians. No wonder that the neighbouring tribes are settling down, trade has revived, and the place visibly prospering.

A SERIES of ovations have been given to Sir WILLIAM WEDDERBURN, Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, on his retirement from the Civil Service. Entertainments of various kinds were got up at Poona and Surat for his honor, and the most cordial testimonies of the public esteem in which he is held greeted him everywhere. These demonstrations culminated in a public meeting of the native inhabitants of Bombay held at the Town Hall, under the presidency of Sir JAMSETJEE JEEJEEBHOOY. Among the speakers, were, besides the Chairman and the popular sheriff, the Hon'ble Mr. TELANG, Mr. PHEROZESHAH M. MEHTA, Mr. RAHIMTOOLA M. SAYANI, Mr. JEHANGEER COWASJEE JEHANGEER, Mr. JAVERIAL UMIAHANKAR YAJNIK, Mr. N. G. CHANDRA VARKAR, Mr. S. F. PATEL, Mr. DOSABHOY HORMUSJEE, Mr. M. M. BHOWNUGGREE, and others. These names are a guarantee of the high character of the meeting and its proceedings. The first resolution, moved by Mr. TELANG, and seconded by Mr. MEHTA, was as follows :—

"That this meeting desires to give expression on the occasion of Sir William Wedderburn's retirement from the public service to the deep esteem and admiration in which he is universally held for his sincere, enlightened and generous sympathy with every thing affecting the true interests of this country and for his constant and fearless efforts to promote them to the best of his power."

A motion was then carried for inviting subscriptions from the princes, chiefs and people of Western India for erecting a permanent memorial.

Popularity like this ought to be a sufficiently tempting reward to induce British administrators in this country to cultivate and practise sympathy towards the people over whom they are placed, and whose satisfaction must be the only true test of their merit. Higher honor than this can scarcely be conceived, and if Sir WILLIAM contemplates contesting an election to the House of Commons, his Indian credentials will serve him as a better passport to the acceptance of an English electorate than was obtained by some higher Indian officials retired before him. The Government of Bombay has also issued a Resolution in which it testifies to "his enthusiasm in the cause of education, and his anxiety to promote all measures which would in his opinion conduce to the moral and material progress of the natives of this country."

PERHAPS the first Indian municipality under the new system which has incurred the penalty of supersession for default in the performance of its duties, is that of Hoshiarpur in the Panjab. The elective franchise has been withdrawn, and the members shall be appointed, at any rate for the present, by the Government. The municipality is specifically condemned for having suffered a public well and a street to be appropriated by a private individual—a Hindu named HAMIR CHAND—and subsequently for not actively prosecuting the civil suit which the Commissioners had at last, under pressure from Government, reluctantly brought against that individual. The gravamen of the action seems, however, to have been the Commissioners' individual conduct in the religious riots of October last. It will be remembered that the Hindu and Mahomedan festivals fell together, and led to serious disturbances at several



places. Hoshiarpur was one of the towns which suffered from these outbreaks. The members of the Municipal Committee had no especial duties assigned to them, individually or collectively, in connection with the celebration of the festivals, yet Government expected that each would use his influence in such times for the public weal. With the exception of the President, the Rev. Mr. CHATTERJEE, no member seems to have taken a part on the side of order. The religious antagonism between the Hindu and the Mahomedan members is aimed at in the orders passed by Lieutenant-Governor AITCHISON before laying down his office. Lately, two of the Mahomedan members had resigned their office on the ground of the ill-feeling against them on the part of the Hindu members. The President had also resigned, though on other grounds. Faction ran high, and public interests were neglected. For this state of things, it seems, however, that the Government is not less responsible than the members who have now fallen under its displeasure. The Municipality was nevertheless constituted of 12 elected and 5 nominated members, which seems to have been a mistake. The elections gave a preponderance to the Hindoos, there being 10 Hindu elected members for two Mahomedan, the inequality being scarcely redressed by the discretion exercised by the Government in having appointed the full number of nominated Commissioners from non-Hindus, viz., three being Mahomedans, and two Christians. The failure of the Committee seems to have thus lain in its very organization, the Mahomedan community having, from the first, been placed at a disadvantage. The effects of this constitutional infirmity could have been avoided only by the exercise of exceptional forbearance and moderation by the Hindu majority. This impartiality and high sense of public duty were unfortunately not shown. It must, however, in justice be said that no impropriety is stated to have occurred as a consequence of Hindu preponderance, except the one case of HAMIR CHAND. Indeed, the case for Government is open to serious criticism and its action seems hasty. More we are not prepared to say, in the absence of detailed local knowledge.

•THE *Statesman* publishes a lengthy letter purporting to be a reply on behalf of Mr. FORBES, Magistrate-Chairman of the Suburban Municipality, to the vote of censure passed on him in regard to his arrangements for the house-service. The arguments set forth therein are not new, having, indeed, already appeared in that journal some time ago. There is no doubt some force in the fact that Mr. FORBES had paid keen personal attention to the administration of the house-service under the contract system since he assumed charge of the Municipality, and that a great deal of improvement had been attained, and there were fewer complaints than before. We are nevertheless unable to exonerate him from the charge which has been brought against him. The contract system had been condemned by the Commissioners with a deliberateness which left no room for entertaining the question of its retention. Mr. FORBES had distinctly undertaken to sweep away the contract from 1st April, with full knowledge of all the circumstances upon which he now lays so much stress. The question of the amalgamation of the Suburbs with Calcutta was then as much in his knowledge as at any subsequent time, and the difficulties of introducing a change of system must also have been foreseen. Those difficulties, again, are not by any means so formidable as they temporarily proved at one time in the Calcutta Municipality. The times are considerably changed, and a strike amongst *malikars* is now-a-days easily overcome. Large numbers of them may at a short notice be got from Calcutta, Deoghur, and other places. Were this not the case, we would have heard of frequent combinations among them for sending up their wages. The fact is the public are not now so entirely at the mercy of this unodoriferous profession as before. The whole thing appears clearly to have been an afterthought on the part of Mr. FORBES, whose generosity to the old contractor and his manager is responsible for the awkward situation that has arisen.

•ONE by one all the first class men of India in every line are disappearing without leaving any successors. A few months ago, Lucknow lost its greatest Moulvi who was probably the greatest Hindi Arabic of his day. We have now to record the death, some three weeks ago, of the most learned Mahomedan of Patna, MAHAMMAD SAYID. The greatest Moulvi in the Lieutenant-Government, he received only his due when

he was, on the Jubilee day, created a Shuns-ool-Olema. But the honor came too late. He was already in his 73rd year, and suffering from the now common disease, diabetes. The formal investiture was to have come on at the Durbar which the Lieutenant-Governor will, it is understood, hold at Patna in July. But the old man could not wait. He lived on his own means, devoting himself to teaching. His corpse was followed to the grave by a vast crowd, consisting chiefly of his disciples and friends. The chief mourner was his sister's son, his only heir.

•THE *Muslim Herald* is offended with the *Lahore Tribune* and easily disposes of it and its constituents. In an article modestly marked communicated, it speaks of the Lahore editor with undisguised contempt, as "the man," "the intruder," and what not. "This unwelcome intruder," we are told, "seems to have but poor knowledge of the original principles of the Hindu religion which he pretends to profess." After that, the *Tribune's* reflections on Muslim men and things are, of course, "beneath contempt." "We also think it a waste of time to exchange Billingsgate with young Bengal."

That is a wise thought. It is kept up to the letter as well as the spirit. To begin with, the Lahore writer is denounced as a Bengali and the *Tribune* pitied for being edited by a Bengali. In the next paragraph, the *Tribune* writer is represented as "this cow-worshipper." Thus is time saved and Billingsgate avoided down South! And then the *Muslim* launches into the wide ocean of mystery and the *Im-i-Mantak*, in which we need not follow it.

All this bad blood originated in a profound and practical proposition made by the *Muslim*, to wit, that as the Mussulmans, out of regard for the feelings of the Hindus, have abstained from slaughter of cows on the occasion of a Hindu festival, the Hindus should reciprocate the good will by abstaining one day from worship of their idols. The obtuse *Tribune* did not see the beauty of this brilliant idea. Hence the mild Thersites dose—no Billingsgate, mind you!—to which it is being treated, just to brighten up its faculties. The *Muslim* esteems itself master of the situation in both Mahomedan and Hindu theologies and their antecedents. With respect to its own professed creed, it delivers this ultra-Wahabi *futwa*—

"It would be a great sin to give up cow-killing as a salve to the superstitions of Hindus."

The *Muslim* is surely Wahabee or nothing. It is, we are constrained to think, a misnomer. Or else, it would not have so easily committed itself to so serious a proposition. It is not aware of the gravity of its own words. That statement goes far to de-Islamise a great many Indian Mussulmans, good and true, not only among our contemporaries but of all former times. Cow-killing is a dangerous game in places where Hindus exercise power or command influence. It is not to be thought of in Hindu states where it is put down by severe pains and penalties. It follows, therefore, from the *Muslim's futwa*, that all Mussulmans who reside or have at any time resided under Hindu Rajas and chiefs and sirdars, are and were *kafirs*. Here is another difficulty to the Faithful, and evolved out of the depths of his consciousness by their own appointed apologist! One would have thought that the question of *Darool Hurb* was enough misery for Islam in the Indies.

The *Muslim* then proceeds to enlighten the poor Bengali conductor of the Panjab paper on the foundations of his own faith. Continuing his remark on Mahomedan abstinence from cow-slaughter, he writes—

"Such a concession would be tantamount to countenancing cow-worship, into which the purest class, to which, apparently, the said Editor belongs, have driven the blind masses of India by corrupting the true form introduced by the founder of the Hindu faith. The original Theosophy of the Hindu Shastras does not much differ from that of ours."

The editor of the *Tribune* must surely be grateful for such novel information about his Hindu ancestors. Indeed, Hindus in general must be interested in the revelation. It would have been more to the point to know who was the Prophet that founded Hinduism, but we have no right to look a gift-horse in the mouth. Information is information, be it ever so vague.

•IN our anxiety to improve the indigenous press, whether in English or in the vernaculars, we do not spare the faults of our brethren of the quill. All the more is the duty imperative on us of acknowledging merit and bringing out to light the claims of the distant or the obscure. Indeed, it is often a positive relief to turn from the ignorance, weak-



ness, recklessness, the slovenliness of thought and language too often manifested nearer home, to the shrewdness and cleverness, the knowledge and judgment in the other parts of the empire. Thus one of the finest voices in the native Press, or for that matter the whole Indian press, hails from the far off Eastern shore of the Arabian Sea. The dreary wastes of Sind are not congenial to richness of growth, whether vegetable or literary. Yet, strange as it may seem, it is there that we have a paper well printed and got up, ably and courageously conducted, and well written, such as would do honor to any Presidency capital. As it is, it deserves the patronage of the wealthy in all parts of India.

Here is a gem of an editorial note from the *Sind Times* :—

"The days are gone by when people did small things in a small way without flourish of trumpets and shouting in the streets. If any one wants to let off a rocket he will invite half the world to witness it. Every one knows the old difference of opinion between vegetarians and meat-eaters. The virtues of vegetarianism have been descanted upon in and out of books. In England there are vegetarian societies—and quick to appreciate the advantages of 'associated efforts' some warm advocates of vegetarianism have commenced establishing similar societies in this country. We can understand the necessity of establishing such societies in England, but we own we do not understand its necessity in India. One might see the necessity of establishing societies of meat-eaters in this country where the majority of the population are vegetarians either of necessity or by religion. Even if we can tolerate a vegetarian society we find great difficulty in tolerating six columns and a half of speeches made at the inauguration of the Calcutta Vegetarian Society. The *Indian Mirror* published an extra sheet containing the report of these speeches for no other reason than that can be conceived except that the Editor is the President of the Society. The impression that a perusal of these speeches leaves upon our mind is that professional vegetarians are greater talkers than meat-eaters, and that they talk more nonsense. One of the speakers, a learned Pandit, described the evils of fish-eating. Amongst other diseases that this frightful vice produces are the following few :— 'Malarious fever; itches; gonorrhœa; diabetes; weakness of the semen; derangement of the brain; loss of appetite; loss of sight; dental complaints; indolence; sleepiness; pain over the body; impotence; constant desire for sexual pleasure; desire for vilification; constant desire of praise; greediness; effeminacy; dryness of the skin; bad bodily smell; burning sensation, and several others.' These come of the minor sin of eating fish. And what fate overtakes those who eat flesh? Vegetarianism at home is excellent in principle and in sentiment, but vegetarianism on the platform is often vegetarianism gone mad."

That is smartly written, and instinct with knowledge and good sense. But it exhibits another quality, rarer still perhaps, namely, independence. The editor is a Baboo and a Bengali of the medical caste. It was only a sense of duty which led him to expose the amiable hobby of the great Vaidya of the *Indian Mirror*.

OUR vernacular contemporary the *Sanjibani*, having published some charges of a scandalous nature against Babu GOURISANKAR BISWAS, Deputy Magistrate of Nowgong, an appeal has been made to the editor of the *Statesman* by his friends in his behalf. These friends are two native officials who have addressed a letter signed *Lovers of Truth*. One of the allegations made in the *Sanjibani* against the officer was that he is in the habit of forcibly unveiling native ladies who appear in his court, by his peons. This charge is declared to be untrue. The more serious complaint however is not disposed of so easily. Babu GAURISANKAR's vindications scarcely improve the case by their own statements. Their words are :—

"An anonymous letter was received that Bosanto Coomari (who does not lead a very exemplary life) was *eniente*, and that a miscarriage was apprehended. Gouri Sankar Baboo, on the receipt of this information, deputed the sub-inspector of the thanna in whose jurisdiction the accused lived, to hold an enquiry about the matter as delicately as possible. The sub-inspector in his report said that though no direct evidence could be had in the matter, he was sure the news was true. After this, Gouri Sankar Baboo had her examined by the civil surgeon of the district, in perfect good faith the allegation was well-founded. From the above, you will be able to see clearly that the charges brought against Gouri Sankar Baboo have been purely prompted by malice and selfish motives."

Our contemporary of the *Statesman* is justly surprised at the *naïveté* with which such a defence could be put forward by any body, far less by officials themselves, one of whom was an old Deputy Magistrate himself who brought the letter. The proceedings complained against are outrageous in all conscience. The law indeed invests Magistrate with the power of investigating into cases in which they have information that abortions are likely to be procured, but the information on which any proceedings are to be taken must be information in the legal sense of the term. To have acted upon a mere anonymous letter, or even a report of a police sub-inspector in the way this Deputy Magistrate appears to have done, and subjected a woman to medical examination, were as unwarrantable as they were tyrannical.

We have no doubt a proper enquiry will be held in the matter. The Magistrate stands in need of a surgical handling himself.

A SENSATIONAL case is under trial in the Lahore Chief Court, in which the parties are both Europeans connected with the administration of justice. The plaintiff is Mr. M. MACAULIFFE, B. C. S., Divisional Judge of Sialkot, and the defendant Mr. W. E. BROWNE, a Pleader of the High Court. The plaintiff's complaint is that Mr. BROWNE, who appeared in an appeal case before his court, had behaved most insolently towards him on his dismissing the appeal. Mr. BROWNE said that he (Plaintiff) had delivered judgment before writing it and that he (Defendant) would report him to the Chief Court and file an affidavit to that effect. This threat is alleged to have been given in such an insolent manner as to constitute a clear case of contempt which the Judge might well have taken cognizance of himself. Instead of doing so, he asked Mr. BROWNE not to file the affidavit, as he had, he said, written his judgment, which, considering the whole time which the case appears to have occupied, and in the admission of the Judge himself, must have been done, at least in part, before the Pleader had appeared to support the appeal. The omission of the Judge to resent the contempt, coupled with the humiliation of the overtures made to the offender for dissuading him from filing the affidavit, appears strange and extraordinary under the circumstances, and cannot fail to be interpreted against him. His explanation before the Chief Court that his motive in asking Mr. BROWNE to desist from his threatened course was the desire to avoid correspondence and such proceedings as had since arisen, scarcely improves matters. He admits, however, having refused to read out his judgment to the pleader. The further details of the complainant's statement are in his own words :—

"I would, of course, never have refused to read my judgment to any lawyer, who had asked me in a courteous manner. In point of fact I did not read my judgment to Mr. Browne, and I do not remember that he asked me in so many words, to read it to him. He asked me to let him have a copy of it, and I again referred him to the Clerk of the Court. I will here supply a detail that I remember. I pulled out my watch to ascertain if there were time to give him a copy on that day, and to the best of my recollection it was then about 20 minutes past 4. I think after this he pulled a rupee out of his pocket, and in a very insolent manner asked me to allow him to peruse my judgment. I saw that Mr. Browne was taking liberties with me which were highly unusual, and that his object was to insult; and told him he had better leave the Court. He refused to do so, and putting on a very defiant attitude, stood in the middle of the floor, and said he had as much right to remain there as I had. I then returned to my private room, leaving Mr. Browne in the Court. I was followed into my private room by one of my officials, and I asked him if Mr. Browne had gone. I wanted to return to Court, and of course I did not wish another interview with Mr. Browne. On ascertaining that he had left the Court, I returned to it myself, and proceeded with my work. In evidence that the time was not so late as stated by Mr. Browne, I present to the court three judgments written by me, on the same date, after the disposal of Mr. Browne's case. In my letter I have charged Mr. Browne with having insulted me; I have stated what his conduct was in my Court."

The defendant in his examination referred at the outset to some disagreeable occurrence which had taken place at Rawal Pindi in 1885, when the plaintiff and the defendant resided at that station, the upshot of which was Mr. MACAULIFFE's exclusion from the Mess on information supplied by the present defendant. He totally denied the rupee incident, which was, he added, impossible from the circumstance of his not having a rupee with him at the time. This version of what passed in the court, will be seen from his deposition which we give in full :—

"I arrived there about 15 minutes before 10; Mr. Macauliffe was not in Court. I remained outside the Court. Mr. Macauliffe arrived after two o'clock—as near as I can recollect, a few minutes past 2. I was at that time walking in the garden waiting for my case to come on. I saw Mr. Macauliffe up. I was not called on till ½ past 5. I am precise about the time because I had been waiting the whole day before 10 o'clock, and had referred to my watch, and had heard the gharials of the adjacent buildings strike. The case was announced, and I looked at my watch it was past five. I had had nothing to eat the whole day and had been at the Court continuously, and had never left the premises. Then the case was called on. I came round and entered the Court room. Mr. Macauliffe was sitting below the dais at a small camp-table. I was standing just opposite him across the table. He looked up, and asked me if I appeared in this case and said 'what have you got to say.' I then stood up and had brief notes of my argument in my hand. I began to give a history of the case and had not spoken for 10 minutes, or at the most 15 minutes, when Mr. Macauliffe turned round in the chair and addressed his Munshi saying, 'Likho appeal nahin manzur.' I stopped and waited until Mr. Macauliffe resumed his position facing me, when I asked 'is that order about my appeal?' He said it was. I then said 'But you have not heard me, Sir.' He replied 'I have heard quite enough.' I then said 'Will you record

that? He said he would not, and that I could go on. I replied that it was useless to go on as it was a waste of my time as well as his own as he had already passed orders on the case. I again asked him to record that I had not been heard, and he refused. I then said 'but you have written judgment.' He said it was no business of mine. I then said 'it is my business, and when I return to Lahore to-morrow, I must make affidavit before the Chief Court that I have not been heard, and that you have decided the case before writing your judgment.' Mr. Macauliffe replied 'if you make such an affidavit it will be a false one, for I am prepared to hear you, and have written my judgment.' He took the record up from the floor and holding it in his hand showed me what he said was his judgment. I saw the signature and date. I put out my hand for it but he wouldn't let me take it. He said I had no right to see it. I said, after thinking a moment, 'I may not have a right to see it,' and I again asked him to read it, which he refused. I may add that my reason in asking him again to read it, was because I did not believe it was his judgment. I had not seen him with a pen, and it was impossible for him to write his judgment without my seeing it. When he refused to read it to me, the thought struck me at the moment:—I said 'If that is your judgment, you wrote it before you sent for me, for you have not put pen to paper since I have been in Court.' He then ordered me to leave the Court. I declined to do so saying that it was an open Court. He then said he would turn me out. I said that if he attempted to turn me out, he must be responsible for the consequence. He then got up and said to his reader 'bundkaro' and left the Court. After a moment or two I left the Court and stood in the verandah, and while the horses were being harnessed to the 'gharrie,' I made notes of what had transpired, on the back of my heads of argument, which were in my hand. These are the notes I made at the time within 5 seconds of coming out of Court. As soon as I came out and while I was writing these notes the door was locked. I wrote the notes in the verandah of the Court, and dated the 16th of March."

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1887.

### THE NEW CHAMPION OF THE INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE MONOPOLY.

THE London *Spectator* will, we fear, cause some little mischief by its characteristic "leader" on "Self-Government in India," reprinted in our issue of 30th April last. As usual with the brilliant Old Indian who is the author, it brims over with fallacies from beginning to end. With the ostensible object of allaying the alarm which the evidence before the Public Service Commission of some over-zealous friends of the natives has caused to the Anglo-Indian community, our astute contemporary has contrived to deal a heavy blow to the cause of the Indians. His conduct is as honorable as that of a third party who, pretending to separate two combatants, makes the cause of one his own and ends by showering more blows than ever would have been inflicted, without his intermeddling. We are not ourselves fired with the ambition of hastening Self-Government in India in the sense the *Spectator* uses the expression. Not even the most thoughtless Indian agitators dream of that yet. Nor does it fall within the scope of the Public Service Commission to suggest any fundamental changes in the administrative system of this country. The English character of the administration is not affected by such modifications in the system of competitive examination as have been pressed upon the Commission. The educated natives have never "put forward claims which involve demands for a monopoly of all appointments in the service of the State." Their demands are more moderate. Their grievance is they have not so far had fair play. The Civil Service is open to them only in theory, being practically closed to them from the competition being held in England, as well as from the unfair limit of age prescribed for the candidates. All that they demand is that the theory and the practice should be reconciled by such modifications in

the rules of the competition as might appear consonant to reason. The modifications suggested by far the majority of the witnesses, both native and European, who appeared before the Public Service Commission, are chiefly that the seat of the examination should not be restricted to London, and that the limit of age should be raised. Nothing could be fairer or more moderate than these suggestions. As regards the limit of age, the change proposed amounts only to a return to the age which had been originally fixed by the rules, and which had subsequently been reduced evidently with the object of excluding candidates from India. A single examination in India for the recruitment for an Indian Service is only the most natural order of things, and if there were reasons in the early period of British rule for reversing that order, they have certainly disappeared with the rise and growth of University education in this country. We wonder there could be any exception taken to a proposal so natural as this, and the moderation of which is manifest from its not superseding the English competition.

Such are the demands which have been put forward by natives and by not a few Europeans also in regard to the system for the recruitment of the Civil Service. Is there anything so preposterous in them as to justify the *Spectator* in conjuring up the spectre of an end of British Rule or the tirade it levels against the educated Bengalis? Is it the educated Bengalis alone who have preferred these demands? Have not all Indian races been unanimous in urging them? It may suit the purposes of our contemporary and of politicians of his school not to acknowledge the consensus of opinion which practically prevails amongst the people on issues of literally vital interest to them all. The old trick of claiming the Mahomedan community as out of sympathy with the views of the rest of the Indian people, is hardly worth serious consideration. The acknowledged leaders of that community have given their evidence in the same terms of regret at the exclusiveness of the existing Civil Service system, and of earnest appeal for a change. If the educational backwardness of our Mahomedan fellow-countrymen has led them to look with less favor on any system of pure and simple competition, and with more favor on a system of especial nomination in regard to their especial claims, there is no doubt as to their dissatisfaction with arrangements which placed the whole Indian population at a disadvantage and set an undue premium on the claims of Europeans. That dissatisfaction is universal, being shared by all races of India alike, and it is growing keener with the lapse of time, as the increasing advancement of native education and the acuteness of the struggle for life made the injustice and exclusiveness of the present system naturally more galling.

The demand for an increased share in the administrative posts under the State, urgent as it is and universal as it tends to be, is not at all synonymous with a demand for Native Government. Nothing, indeed, could be more absurd than such a supposition. The case, we repeat, stands thus: The Civil Service is the monopoly of the Europeans to whom the conditions of the competitive examination are extremely favorable. This monopoly might have had a justification before, when sufficiently qualified natives were not available, but education has since made great progress in this country, and there are now large numbers of educated natives able to compete with Europeans for admission to the Civil Service, only if it were fairly thrown open to them. The admission was the

results of this competition of a certain proportion of natives to the higher administration of the country, is all that is wanted. The European monopoly will be broken, not by the substitution of a native monopoly, but merely by a slight encroachment upon it. To call this an attempt to terminate British rule and open a whole battery of fallacious arguments to demolish such an idea, must be purely gratuitous.

#### COMMISSIONS IN GENERAL AND THE SERVICE COMMISSION.

COMMISSIONS are often regarded as a delusion. Looking to their barrenness in some past instances, well may they be so described, if to call them a snare be unparliamentary. When public opinion grows too strong in demanding a reform or a concession, nothing comes so easy to the Government as to grant a sop in the shape of a Commission of Enquiry. This immediately acts like a charm and silences clamour, and if it likewise holds out a hope which the Government may ultimately not fulfil, time at any rate is gained, and there are a great many ways and devices for softening any disappointment afterwards. Sufficient for the day are the evils thereof, and the future may well take care of its own evils. The Army Commission, the Education Commission, the Excise Commission, the Chowkidari Commission, what have they done? It must be a strange commentary on the recommendations of the first that the organization of the Army, at least as regards the Presidency Commands, remains unaltered to this day, and as to reduction of military expenditure, the less said about it, the better. The recommendations of the Education Commission are reducible to action only by the outlay of much more expenditure than there is any prospect of taking place, so far as we can see. The Excise Commission, notwithstanding Sir RIVERS THOMPSON'S sanctimonious protestations and pious resolves, is already bearing its fruits in an unprecedented increase of outstills in the districts. No considerations of revenue should be allowed, said the Puritan ruler of Bengal, to override the interests of the moral welfare of the people. And how that moral welfare is being safeguarded will be manifest from the fact that in the one district of Hooghly alone, orders have issued for the establishment of about sixty outstilleries, that is, the cheapening down of country liquor from one Rupee to two annas a bottle. The question is indeed beset with difficulties, and the new Lieutenant-Governor no more sees his way out of them than his predecessor. Whatever the official argument in support of the outstill system, the plain fact remains that the only way the Government can think of to prevent smuggling is by so cheapening licit liquor as to increase the temptation to drinking in an awful extent. As to the Chowkidari Commission, it has accomplished what it was probably meant to do. It has reduced the Panchayets, already a mockery, to a still greater mockery, till the next step cannot fail to be to sweep away even the name that now remains. Here in the reorganization of the village police, the Government had a fine opportunity of so constituting the Panchayet system as to make it a fitting auxiliary to its new scheme of Local Self-Government. By taking care to appoint only leading men to the Panchayets and vesting them with real powers over the organization of the village police, it was in its power to create a popular honorary agency for its aid which would have afforded

great relief to the already over-worked district officers, and by some arrangement the Panchayets and the Local Self-Government Union Committees might easily have been made to harmonise with each other. But that would have been really popularising the police, which is against the policy of the rule. Indeed, where the Government has not the will to do a thing, it has only to get a Commission to confirm its foregone conclusions and, between them, secure the ends it has in view.

Would to God, the Public Service Commission may not prove a makeshift of this description. The greatest hopes hang on the issue, and, indeed, it is scarcely too much to say the Viceroyalty of Lord DUFFERIN will be judged by the measure of reality which may attend the labors of this great Commission. The alarm taken by the Anglo-Indian community at some of the evidence given before the Commission need not trouble them in reality. The natives themselves call for no radical administrative changes. The English character of the administration is by no means in any danger. All that would satisfy the people is a due appreciation of their merits as they may qualify themselves, and their employment in the administration of their country more largely than is now possible with the Civil Service Examination held in London, and the patronage exercised in favor of Europeans in the recruitment for other departmental services to the all but entire exclusion of natives. The question of the larger employment of natives is as old, indeed, as the beginning of this century, and so far as Parliamentary Statutes are concerned, it has been solved long ago. Nay, it has been constantly and again before the Government. Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, then Secretary of State for India, addressed a despatch on this subject in February 1868, to the Governor-General in Council, the terms of which remain unredeemed to our day. He wrote:—

"I observe with satisfaction that you are 'fully alive to the urgent political necessity for opening up to Natives of ability and character a more important, dignified and lucrative sphere of employment in the administration of British India,' and that you are prepared to give at once practical effect to this principle, by recognising the eligibility in the Non-Regulation Provinces of Natives thus qualified for grades in the Public Services not hitherto open to them. This is a step in the right direction, of which I cordially approve, but it appears to me that there is room for carrying out the principle to a considerable extent in the Regulation Provinces also. The Legislature has determined that the more important and responsible appointments in those Provinces shall be administered exclusively by those who are now admitted to the Public Service solely by competition; but there is a large class of appointments in the Regulation, as well as in the Non-Regulation Provinces, some of them, scarcely less honorable and lucrative than those reserved by law for the Covenanted Civil Service, to which the Natives of India have certainly a preferential claim, but which, as you seem to admit, have up to this time, been too exclusively conferred upon Europeans. These persons, however competent, not having entered the Service by the prescribed channel, can have no claim upon the patronage of the Government, none, at least, that ought to be allowed to override the inherent rights of the Natives of the country; and therefore, while all due consideration should be shown to well-deserving incumbents, both as regards their present position and promotion, there can be no valid reason why the class of appointments which they now hold should not be filled in future, by natives of ability and high character."

Since the date of this despatch, the number of appointments of this class has increased, while the fitness of the people of this country for filling them has also advanced. Nevertheless, the principle laid down in the despatch continues to be a dead letter. There seems thus to be some serious obstacle to work which has rendered repeated orders of the home Government, and repeated legislative enactments in behalf of the more enlarged employment of Natives, inoperative. That obstacle, of course, is no other than the human failing of subordinate rulers. Partiality for one's own nationality has hitherto proved a powerful bar against the advance-

ment of Natives. Indeed, our experience of past history warrants but little hope. Commissions are notoriously stopgaps. Our only hope lies in the Viceroy. We trust his force of character and liberal sympathies will enable him to make the Public Service Commission of his Viceroyalty a memorable event to which succeeding generations of the Indian people will look back as an era in the history of their progress. The Commission can only realize the hopes which have been aroused in one way. The Civil Service Examination must be held in India. The time is past for the examination to be held in London for the Service in India. It acts as a bar to the admission of the people. It is only natural that there should be one examination and that it should be held in India. If, however, it be too much to do away with the London competition, it may be retained in conjunction with another competition held in this country under the same conditions. If this is not done, the Commission will be only another instance of a huge mountain in labor.

THE incubus has at last been removed. The son-in-law has gone the way of the father-in-law. The almighty Clerk has fallen. The Inspector-General of Registration *de facto* has received his *congé* for good. For the first time since its creation, the Department breathes freely. It will now be subject to the ordinary laws of causation.

Such is the feeling and such are the remarks evoked by the extraordinary dismissal from service of the Head Assistant in the Registration Department. We record it with sorrow and shame. Personally bound as we are to him by ties of old friendship, we would gladly be silent on the subject, had public duty permitted of it. But we cannot pass over what is an event in a great public department of State, and what may not be without influence on other departments and on the whole ministerial agency. It was as much as we reasonably and honestly could, to be silent so long. For nearly a month the subject has been the talk of native society in town. It was known that serious charges had been preferred, in black and white, against the Head Assistant and another clerk. From a natural tenderness we refrained from noticing the matter, as well while it was under inquiry as when it was under consideration. It is all over now—in every sense. The orders have been passed and announced in the cases. It now could serve no purpose, and would simply be faint-heartedness, to go on as if nothing was the matter or had happened.

A Mahomedan nobleman, wishing to serve Government, had long been an applicant for a suitable situation as Sub-Registrar. Recommended by the Chief Secretary, he had frequently danced attendance at the Registrar General's Office, but to no purpose. About a month ago he complained to Mr. Secretary PEACOCK that his recommendations and reminders had done no good and would do none, that preferment in the department did not go by simple favour but each place had its price. He concluded with saying that the Head Assistant and another clerk had offered him appointment if he paid a certain sum. The Secretary immediately sent him with a note to Mr. BLYTH, Inspector-General, to hear and inquire, specially as that was not the only time that such charges had been made. Mr. BLYTH took down what the Nawab said and had him confronted with the clerks in question. They denied the charge. There was no corroborative evidence against them, while the Head Baboo, besides relying on the good opinion of successive heads of the department, produced two certificates from two eminent citizens of Calcutta. The Baboo submitted a written explanation. In forwarding it to Government, the Inspector-General reviewed the case. He pointed out that there was statement against statement, yet he did not disbelieve the Nawab. The Baboo had long lain under suspicion. In conclusion he suggested his punishment by transfer from his present office. The Lieutenant-Governor thought this an illogical conclusion and decreed dismissal. On Thursday evening the order was communicated to the Head Assistant. The other man was left to be dealt with departmentally. The Lieutenant-Governor might as well have disposed of it

himself. The poor fellow might then have a chance. The Inspector-General has dismissed him on the ground that the Government had dismissed the Head Assistant.

THE proposal for adopting Lala BUN BEHARI KAPOOR's remaining son as heir to the Burdwan Raj, is being discussed by the lawyers before Messrs. HALLIDAY and BEAMES as the Board of Revenue. The ball was opened on last Saturday by Mr. WOODROFFE, on the part of the opposing Dowager, protesting against Mr. BEAMES who had made up his mind and expressed himself on the subject. Mr. BEAMES protested that he had not, that his mind was a blank like, say, a promissory note before engrossing, and Mr. EVANS, for the young Maharani, helped him to some show of documentary support. Then the old Maharani's counsel reminded him that he had been Commissioner of Burdwan. If they spared him the recollection of what house he lived in or what equipage he drove in while there, they startled him with the production of official letters under his hand which proved their point and proved his angry protestations of innocence to be mere pretence. There was no getting over elaborate documents. He now passionately demanded where they had got them, and inveighed against the dishonesty of prying into state secrets, having no doubt that they had been obtained by foul means. Mr. WOODROFFE confounded him by asserting that he had obtained them from that honourable Board. The great official subsided. But his brother "boarder" came to his rescue. Mr. HALLIDAY spoke of the assistance Mr. BEAMES would be of in that inquiry from his Burdwan experience. As for Mr. BEAMES, he felt no delicacy in sticking to his seat. Mr. WOODROFFE then commenced his argument against the validity under the Hindu Law of such an adoption. The argument was to be continued to-day.

THE friends of Mr. MANOMOHAN GHOSE have at length mustered resolution and force to give his brother from England at the beginning of the year some sort of a public reception. There was this afternoon a gathering of all the boys of Messrs. SURENDRA NATH BANNERJEE'S and A. M. BOSE'S schools, headed by a few boys of maturer years. The leading men of the community almost unanimously kept away. There was a singular paucity of the grown up respectable element. There were neither the Setts nor Bysacks nor Roys nor Mullicks nor Dutts nor Tagores nor Mookerjees nor Banerjees nor Chatterjees, nor Laws nor Sens (but one) nor Boses. Of Ghoses there were only the brothers Ghose. There were some half a dozen young barristers but neither Mr. BONNERJEA nor Mr. PALIT nor Mr. AMAR ALA nor Mr. CHATTERJEA nor Mr. ABDUR RAHMAN. Of attorneys, there were Baboos GONESH CHUNDER and KALINATH MITTER only. None of the Mysore or Oudh Princes were present. Neither Syed AMEER HOSSEIN nor Nawab ABDOL LUTEEF was there. The merchants of Barra Bazar were unrepresented. Mr. MEHTA was the only Parsee. As Babu SURENDRA NATH patronised the business, Kumar NIL KRISHNA came up all the way from his country retreat at Khurda to lead his poor blind cousin to the chair, though Maharaja NARENDRA KRISHNA would not come. The business too was poor beyond measure. There were no speeches, but an address to Mr. LAL MOHAN GHOSE, or perhaps two addresses, were read, to which he replied. Babu LAL MOHAN himself was not in good form. He looked wan and used up and had apparently lost his voice and spirit. He merely repeated the old tale of his electioneering defeat and that not with his old fluency. The most lively part of the proceedings was the exhibition of the address presented to him by his Deptford supporters.

# REIS & RAYYET

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No. 274

## ADDRESS TO VICTORIA.

*By the late Captain J. Abbott, of the Artillery.*

VICTORIA !—From thy thousand isles,  
Thy realms beyond the sea,  
Old ocean wreathes his brow in smiles,  
To bless, to welcome thee.—  
Throughout each palace crystalline,  
Each far-resounding dome,  
With ocean-pearls the Naiads twine  
Their sea-green locks—they come ;  
They come, light dancing o'er the Deep,  
As motes in sunny beam ;  
In music o'er the waves they sweep,  
Victoria still their theme.  
Queen of the Isles,  
Queen of the Deep,  
Of Freedom, Valour, Beauty, Queen.

No sceptre needs that lily hand,  
Bend but thy beauteous brow,  
Old Ocean's thunders shake the strand,  
They quell each haughty Foe.  
Forth the white-pinioned squadrons fly,  
Those eagles of the wave ;  
The red-cross banner streams on high  
Its beacon to the Brave.  
And at thy glance to light they leap,  
The war-blades bright and keen :  
Red roll the Floods, wild, curl, and sweep,  
Hoarse voices chime between—  
" Queen of the Isles !  
" Queen of the Deep !  
" Of Freedom, Valour, Beauty, Queen."

Blessings on Her, whose very name  
Breathed in the Scythian Wild,  
The Scythian's stony heart could tame,  
And free sad Slavery's child !  
Britannia's name, till then unheard,  
With thine sweet union found :  
Old Oxus own'd the blest accord,  
And trembled at a sound.  
Then clank'd the riven chain : the Deep  
Gave up its dead :—and keen  
Leapt forth the prison'd fires.—They weep,

They bless a power unseen,  
Queen of the Isles,  
Queen of the Deep,  
Of Freedom, Valour, Beauty, Queen.

Victoria ; bid thy standard wave,  
Fling far each giant fold,  
Dropp'd with the pearls of ocean's cave,  
With India's gems and gold !  
On that red cross the circling sun  
Ne'er sets :—and winds that blow,  
Shake from each fold a blessing down  
On some sad child of woe.  
O'er earth and wave, where'er its deep  
Dread shade of peace is seen,  
A Heaven on earth the Ransom'd keep,  
Starr'd in thy ray serene,  
Queen of the Isles,  
Queen of the Deep,  
Of Freedom, Valour, Beauty, Queen.

But, when its thund'rous folds are freed,  
When the fork'd fire-bolts glance,  
'Mid warrior shouts and tramp of steeds,  
And gleam of serried lance :  
When earth and sky its gloom deplore,  
And Ocean's terrors rise,  
And, hurl'd upon a hostile shore,  
Th' Armada shatter'd lies :  
Whilst surges roar and tempests sweep,  
— Each fearful crash between,  
Justice, dread voice accord shall keep,  
And Mercy, hymn serene,  
Queen of the Isles,  
Queen of the Deep,  
Of Freedom, Valour, Beauty, Queen

## The Week.

THE heat has begun to tell in Calcutta. But what must be the sufferings at Baroda where the thermometer registers 100° in the shade ?

EVEN in the modern world, the argosy—after the Golden Fleece is often a perilous adventure. Thus, a hurricane is reported to have overtaken the pearl fishery fleet on the north-east coast of Australia, in which 500 persons are said to have been lost.

HEAVY defalcations are reported in the Marmagra Railway.



THERE was a serious fire in Jeypore destroying about 700 houses.

A RAILWAY Khalasi has been cut into two by an Oudh and Rohilkund Railway engine.

QUEEN KAPIALANI of his Majesty KALAKANA the First of the Sandwich Islands, has gone to England to contribute to the Jubilee *eclat*.

THE new Lieutenant-Governor of the Panjab opened the new bridge over the Jhelum at Chaki-Nizam, and named it Victoria.

MR. D. M. BARDOUR succeeds Sir AUCKLAND COLVIN in the Finance Ministry. The *Pioneer*, which supplies the information, is jubilant.

THE first clause of the Crimes Bill has been approved by the Committee of the House of Commons by a majority of 92.—Notices of 100 amendments to the second clause are on the board.

ANOTHER arrest of 24 persons for attempting the life of the Czar! Five Nihilists have just been executed for the previous attempt.

A FOREST fire is reported, fifteen miles from Murree, burning down 10,000 acres. It has not yet done its full work. A change of wind may involve Murree in the destruction.

THE Government have agreed to Presidency Volunteer Reserves. There will be one such in Calcutta, sub-divided into two classes, but forming one battalion.

THERE will be a total eclipse of the sun on the 19th August next, visible all over Russia, from the Baltic to Eastern Siberia. Preparations are being made for observation by the principal astronomers of all the countries.

THE French Ministry has resigned for that the Chamber of Deputies supported the Budget, whereas the Committees were for reduction of expenses.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY left yesterday for Darjeeling where preparations have been made for keeping the Queen's birth day—and left Calcutta to heat and dust and the law courts.

ONE of the great works of the world—KANT'S "Philosophy of Law" has just been Englished by the Revd. W. HASTIE of the Hastie-Pigot fame.

A PERSON by name Khader Sheriff has been sentenced to two months' labor by the Bangalore Magistrate, Mr. ABDUL RAHMAN, for rash driving and thereby causing hurt and endangering the lives of two persons.

THE Roman Catholic Church is disestablished in Pondicherry from the first of this month. The saving to the state is 25,000 francs. The Disestablishment of the Church in British India would bring in an appreciable saving of money.

THE goose of the golden egg has turned out to be a Christian of the fair sex. This English lady has sent the Pope by way of an Easter present an egg. The shell is of the finest ivory, the white of beautiful white satin, the yolk is a golden case enclosing a ruby set in diamonds. The egg is valued at 50,000 francs.

MR. Justice STRAIGHT of the Allahabad High Court does not go home as announced, leave not having been granted. It is a disappointment also to the Public Prosecutor Mr. C. H. HILL, who was to have acted as Judge for Mr. STRAIGHT. Mr. HILL goes home immediately to refresh his spirits and health. Mr. G. E. A. ROSS officiates for Mr. HILL.

THE death is announced of Dr. BURJORI, the last survivor of the first Grant Graduates in medicine. He was latterly engaged in commerce in pursuit of which he went to Europe and established a "house." He

rapidly rose to be among the leading merchants. But the crash came which left almost all Bombay prostrate. Dr. BURJORI was ruined like so many others. He tried his best without complaint, but with fortitude and patience, to retrieve. But it would not do. A manly soul passes away with Dr. BURJORI.

ON Monday, the Lieutenant-Governor exposed at the Town Hall the memorial portrait of the retired Lieutenant-Governor painted by Mr. ARCHER at the cost of the friends and admirers of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON. This Memorial Committee had fixed upon this form instead of a purse presentation, and Sir STEUART BAYLEY was of course complimentary to one who had just preceded him in the great office and whom he knew from his school days.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY made another public appearance the next day when he laid the foundation stone of the Eden Hostel, in the Latin Quarter of the city, behind the Senate House. Whether the Hostel be resorted to or not, it is undeniable that the place has been improved by the widening of the lane between the Senate House and the Hindu School and the acquisition of the land for the new building. When will the adjoining Bazar be acquired on both sides of the Colootolla Street to shew off the Hospital building and the School Houses?

THE native officers told off in charge of Capt. C. W. MUIR to swell the grandeur of the Jubilee in London, are—

"Subedar Saik Tindad Ali, Governor-General's Body-Guard; Resaldar Shir Sing, 2nd Panjab Cavalry; Resaldar Major Isrul Sing, 19th Bengal Lancers; Resaldar Lal Sing, 14th Bengal Lancers; Resaldar Major Jaffer Alikhan, 3rd Panjab Cavalry; Resaldar Major Nur Alikhan, 6th Bengal Cavalry; Resaldar Major Nadir Alikhan, 18th Bengal Lancers; Subedar Bromkhan, 4th Madras Light Cavalry; Woordie Major Lina Sing, Central India Horse; Subedar Major Nuzzafer Khan, Hyderabad Contingent; Resaldar Mahomed Nural Khan, 15th Multan Cavalry; and Resaldar Mahomed Bux."

NEWS comes from Bangalore that—

"On the night of the 29th ultimo, a Mahomedan, named Madar alias Bajoo, entered the Hindoo temple known as Meenachee Anmal Covil near Commercial Street, and could not be removed without the intervention of the Police. The Hindoos tried to coax him out by giving him some of the temple offerings, but he would not be satisfied till he had kissed the sacred bull. This was more than Hindoo piety could stand, and the Police were called in to take the offender in charge. The evidence for the prosecution was taken yesterday by Col. Magrath, and the judgment of the Court was 6 weeks' rigorous imprisonment given to-day (May 4)."

THE famous Parsee tiger-hunter, HORMUSJEE E. KOTWAL, who shot as many as hundred kings of the Indian forest, has at last come by his end characteristically—by the hand of one of his sworn enemies. He was a native of the little chiefship of Bansda. The people will long mourn the loss of their most efficient protector from the ravages of wild beasts. His last daring feat is thus reported:—

"The well-known Parsee tiger-slayer, Forest Inspector of the Bonsda State, went about six o'clock on Tuesday morning to see a tiger which he thought he had killed the previous night. On going a few yards of the animal, he found that it was alive. He then fired at it, but missed his aim as the animal at the very moment sprang at him. To avoid the tiger catching at his throat, he thrust his right elbow into its mouth, and dashed aside his paw with his left hand. He has sustained seven wounds in front of the upper part of the fore-arm and serious injuries to his body. He was brought down to Bombay yesterday morning, and removed to the J. J. Hospital."

THE Corporation's meeting of Thursday was a tame affair. The appointment of Baboo RAMONI MOHUN CHATTERJEE as License Officer was sanctioned without much discussion and any opposition. Mr. COTTON was returned to the Port Trust, under the amended law, in place of Sir HENRY HARRISON gone home. Baboo SURENDRA NATH BANERJEE attempted to appropriate the new power in favor of one of the Three in the Corporation. He himself was not at present disposed for the substantial dignity. Baboo KALLY NATH MITTER he thought worthily represented the Corporation in the Bengal Council and the remainder of the Trinity Baboo AMIRTANATH MITTER he therefore proposed for the new office. The Commissioners did not evidently appreciate the taste of the "Brahman of Brahmins" and preferred Mr. COTTON. In nominating their Chairman, the Commissioners did not abandon the new right. True their Chairman had always been a Port Commissioner but he was not appointed by them.

HERE at last is truth about our new fellow-subjects. It is refreshing to read in the *Pioneer* :—

"BURMAN COURAGE.

[FROM A MILITARY CORRESPONDENT.]

We have been accustomed hitherto to look upon the Burman as an arrant coward. Without going so far as to maintain that this is a gross libel as some wish to do, I will briefly mention a few circumstances which, if they don't modify our opinion of him, will, at all events, induce us to think more kindly of him.

Not long ago a party of Infantry and Cavalry came upon a body of mounted dacoits in the Pagan District. After a sharp encounter the dacoits were routed and took to flight. One of their number, probably a boh, was suddenly hit by a bullet and knocked off his pony. Immediately a Burman galloped back and, while the rest of the body rode on, dismounted, and picking up the wounded man, he jumped on to his pony again and rode off. This was done under a heavy fire from our men, and a few Lancers, too, were charging down on him at full speed with levelled lances. It was an exciting moment. The brave Burman urged his pony on, and with much pluck, outpacing his pursuers, escaped into the jungle, as he well deserved to do after so gallant a deed.

That was really a brave action. That man risked his life to save his comrade. There was no lurking hope of ulterior reward. That is a thing which can't always be said of some, at all events, of the brave actions performed on our battle-fields.

On another occasion a party of Blue Jackets, patrolling the Irrawaddy in their launch, came upon a gang of dacoits burning a village on the river bank some distance above Menbo. The dacoits had not seen the launch, so the Blue Jackets adopted the *ruse* of concealing themselves in a country boat and getting some "friendlies" to row them to the scene of the fire. The dacoits were completely taken by surprise when they found the boat filled with Blue Jackets; they fired a volley into it, but no one was hit. The tars now gave it to them hot, killing and wounding five. The rest got away. When the Blue Jackets landed, one wounded Burman, who had his thigh broken, rather than fall into our hands, dragged himself as fast as he could to the water's edge, clutching his old flintlock under his arm. Here he threw the weapon into the river, and then with one great effort jumped in himself. As he floated by a few shots soon put him out of his misery.

An extraordinary thing that has happened during many of our Lancer charges may be referred to here. Burmans, when completely run through with the lance, have frequently been known to wriggle up the weapon and, having climbed near enough, have attacked the sowar with their daks; and on one occasion a Burman in this way nearly severed the arm of a Lancer. To wriggle up a long lance that is through your stomach and attack your assailant certainly shows a good deal of pluck and determination—far more than Jack Burman is given credit for. To guard against this awkward climbing propensity, it is suggested to have knobs fixed to the lance. This too, has its drawback. A knob might get firmly wedged into the man's body and the lance could not be withdrawn in a hurry.

Then, too, it should be remembered that we have sometimes outnumbered the dacoits. They are very badly armed, possessing old flint locks, usually in the proportion of one to every ten men. Very exceptional is it to meet with any armed with the more recent kinds of firearms. In action they rarely have time to fire their muzzle-loaders more than once. They have no proper leaders and no organisation of any kind, and in such circumstances it is a wonder they make a stand at all. Consider what they have against them :—Well-armed and well-disciplined troops; and brave and skilled Generals to plan and carry out all the operations. Supposing these circumstances were reversed, the conquest of Burma would not have been quite such an easy matter, and who knows Jack Burman might have given a better account of himself than he has done, and saved himself from the stigma of cowardice which now, rightly or wrongly, is affixed to him.

Men who have been long in Burma and have known the people well say that, individually, the Burman is brave enough; it is only when he comes to act in bodies that he fails, owing to want of proper organisation. I don't know whether it is bravery, pride or callousness to pain, but it is a notorious fact that a Burman will endure the most severe flogging, 50 to 100 lashes, resulting in severe laceration of the flesh, without a groan or sound of any kind escaping him. Men going to execution walk with a firm and unflinching step, as if the proceedings did not concern them in the least. Another sight seen at executions is the evident satisfaction and unconcern with which the doomed men smoke their cigars when there are several waiting their turn. As at the late Mandalay executions, the wretch whose turn has come passes on his cigar to the next man, and he, in his turn, hands it to the next and so on. It is a sight which moves one's heart with pity for these misguided creatures."

THE *Jam-i-Jumshed* states—

"When Mr. C. S. Nazir was in England about eighteen months ago, as manager of the Victoria Theatrical Company, he contracted friend-

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—Sure Relief.—The weak and enervated suffer severely from nervous affections when storms or electric disturbances agitate the atmosphere. Neuralgia, gouty pangs, and flying pains, very distressing to a delicate system, may be readily removed by rubbing this Ointment upon the affected part after it has been fomented with warm water. The Pills, taken occasionally in the doses prescribed by the instructions, keep the digestion in order, excite a free flow of healthy bile, and regenerate the impoverished blood with richer materials resulting from thoroughly assimilated food—wanting which, the strongest must inevitably soon sink into feebleness, and the delicate find it difficult to maintain existence. *Holloway's Ointment and Pills* are infallible remedies.

ship with an English widow, and correspondence was since kept up. Now this lady has died in Canada, leaving her only son a fortune of £50,000, and a legacy of £50,000 to Mr. C. S. Nazir. The story goes on to say that the parents of the deceased lady dispute the Will on the plea that she must have been of unsound mind when it was made."

The rolling stone of a show-man has for once belied the proverb.

## Editorial Notes.

THE last Calcutta University examinations give the following results, and are published in to-day's *Gazette of India* :—

B. A. 311, namely, —

Metropolitan Institution	...	...	67
General Assembly's Institution	...	...	50
Teachers	...	...	29
City College...	...	...	27
Free Church Institution	...	...	21
Presidency College	...	...	21
Muir Central College	...	...	14
Hughli College	...	...	12
Dacca College	...	...	12
Canning College	...	...	6
Patna College	...	...	10
L. M. S. College, Bhowanipore	...	...	4
Ravenshaw College	...	...	4
Rajshahye College	...	...	4
Morris College	...	...	4
Agra College	...	...	3
Benares College	...	...	4
M. A. O. College	...	...	5
Jabalpur College	...	...	3
St. Xavier's College	...	...	2
Hishop College	...	...	2
L. M. College, Benares	...	...	2
M. B.	...	...	1
Ajmere College	...	...	1
Bethune School	...	...	1
Krishnagar College	...	...	2

CANDIDATES who have taken Honours in the B. A. —

English. First Division 9. Second Division 67.

Mental and Moral Science. First Division 6. Second, 17.

Sanskrit. First Division 9. Second, 14.

Persian. 1st.—2. 2nd.—7. Arabic. 2nd.—1. Latin. 2nd.—1.

History. 2nd.—2. Mathematics. 1st.—7. 2nd.—16.

Physics and Chemistry. 1st. 2. 2nd.—5.

F. A.—First Division 61. Second Division 293. Third Division 500.

AN honest politician is not so common that we can afford to pass over the death of Mr. NEWDIGATE towards the middle of last month. He was the typical Tory Squire of the House. With his colleague gone before, Mr. SPOONER, and after his death, for sometime with Mr. WHALLEY, (the Champion of the Claimant Tichborne) he went the whole hog of antiquated Toryism and Protestant bigotry, or rather anti-papal alarm. It is a desperate *role* in these latter days since the first Reform Bill, but he managed to invest it with sufficient respectability, and even dignity. He had the ear of the House—at any rate, he obtained a hearing for his bitter tirade against modern "improvement"—his wild shriek at Papal designs and progress of Romanism. He was in fact one of the prominent men in the Lower Chamber. And yet he was not a man of broad culture or superior calibre. To us judging from this distance, he appeared a horsey and fox-hunting, but by no means unintelligent or uneducated, gentleman, of the class to which the late Lord GEORGE BENLINCK belonged, and he made his mark by some of the qualities which was the secret of that lamented nobleman's influence which brought him to the head of the Tory party, or rather the wreck thereof that remained after the desertion of Sir ROBERT PEEL. He was transparently honest and he was unmistakably in earnest. People could not help respecting a man with a definite, if narrow mission, who believed in himself. Then he was attentive to the business of the House and diligent and made himself generally useful. He had early mastered the rules of procedure and the bye-laws of the House and was not unfrequently appealed to as an authority in such disputes. He doubtless served with efficiency his immediate constituents as well as thoroughly represented country gentlemanly politics. In proof whereof, he obtained a life-long lease of his seat

He knew no other constituency than North Warwickshire, which he represented for more than forty years, till he retired about two years back.

TOUCHING the relative *prestige* of the Lion and the Bear in High Asia, the latter is proving decidedly the wiser animal of the two. Sir GRISLY certainly made a grave blunder in tempting poor SHERE ALI Khan to his ruin in the absence of a serious intention to support him with arms against England. That blunder brought Russian *prestige* to its lowest ebb since the conclusion of the Russo-Turkish war of 1855. But the Russian Government knows how to retrieve a disaster of the kind. From the beginning of the late Boundary Commission all through its weary course, the Russians have exhibited commendable readiness, and dexterity and resourcefulness. If the British tried to be before-hand with them by throwing into the heart of Khorassan a considerable military and professional party with a well filled treasury to do the gracious and play *milord Anglaise*, how astutely the Russians turned the table against them by precipitating the Penjleh affair! Then the appearance of a native Mahomedan commander to represent Russian power was a brilliant move and was by itself a great victory.

Colonel ALI KHAN, under his Cossackised name ALI KANOFF, commanding on an important frontier at a time of trouble and difficulty, and even leading Russian troops against a Mahomedan state leagued with a great Christian Power which rules over more Mussulmans than the Caliph himself—seemed a step in advance of European *haut politique* and worthy of a Mogul statesman. It reminded one of Raja BIR BAL fighting at the head of the Mogul army AKBAR's battles in Afghanistan. It must have gone far to reassure the Central Asian mind in favour of the liberality of Russian policy. It was a visible refutation of all the Protestant and Western European calumnies against the Czar and his Empire.

The detractors of Russia themselves were staggered. And all they could do to undo or minimise the effect, was to assert that it was a solitary instance of moderation out of keeping with the whole spirit of Cossack harshness towards foreigners and non-Christians and the victims of Russian greed of territory. But now has come another fact even more conclusive of liberality and stunning to calumny, and, not to mince matters, shall we say humiliating to British conceit?

"According to recent accounts Sikandar Ahmed Khan has been appointed Governor of Penjleh, the scene of a recent action between the Amir's troops and the Russians. We do not think a Mahomedan and an uneducated one can better fill the post of a Governor, military or civil, than an educated native and yet the Russian Government without the least hesitation can entrust a most important border province to one of the conquered race of Mahomedans. The Russians never seem to smell sedition and treachery in any action of their Mahomedan fellow-subjects, on the contrary they appoint them to posts of position and responsibility, and thus win their confidence. With us our rulers behave differently and the result is different. The difference is of actions and words; we are often given promises, but they not unfrequently remain unrealised for ever."

We prefer to quote the above to giving the intelligence in our own words, in order to show how naturally comparisons are suggested to Indian mind between the policies of the two greatest European Powers in Asia. *Native Opinion* is one of the most respectable and influential of the Native Press and a paper remarkable for the moderation of its politics. We will not embitter the question with any remarks of our own, though Heaven knows some of the Anglo-Indians have given us enough provocation in connection with the Public Service Commission, but leave our contemporary's reflections to sink into the hearts of the wiser of our European fellow-subjects and officials.

IN the absence of Mr. T. LEITH, the Hon'ble KASHINATH TRIMBAK TELANG has been allowed to act as Government Professor of Law at Bombay. And our people are congratulating themselves on the lift—for him and them. Our Bombay compatriots at any rate cannot be charged with the vanity of immoderate wishes. After saying "No better selection could have been made," *Native Opinion* proceeds—"We think like the Berar educational department, at least the presidential Law School might be manned by competent men like Mr. Telang by way of an experiment, and we have no doubt Government will have no reason to regret such a trial."

No better selection could have been made, and yet our contemporary advocates the placing of the Law School under men like Mr. TELANG by way of an experiment. Could anything be more meek? The

heart of the most uncompromising advocate of European monopoly may well be softened by it. If economists and calculators possessed that internal organ, Lord REAY would immediately adopt and give effect to the suggestion.

For ourself, though we deprecate wild vehemence of tongue or pen, we do not believe in hesitation in the prosecution of legitimate claims. There may be room for modesty in frank assertion, but over-modesty, like mock modesty, is always a mistake. There is no comparison in attainment or reputation between Mr. TELANG and Mr. LEITH. If we cannot strongly advocate the former's trumpery Law Professorship, such as is reserved as an *ad interim* provision for junior European barristers, small hope of our advancement is left us.

To confess our own mind, we demur to the remark "No better selection could have been made." With equal truth might the same be said when of all powers above and below Hercules is brought down to lift a waggon which any navvy might almost carry on his shoulders. Is it an intelligent selection to make the High Court do a village moonsiff's work?

No doubt, a Professor's chair becomes every son of learning and the greatest men in Europe have at one time or another sat in it. As in ancient India judges and ministers were made from among the teachers in the *chatuspathis*, as in Mahomedan states the leading *Ulema* are selected to be *sudders* and *Shekhs-ool-Islam* and *Imams*, so in the European Continent the chairs of History, Political Economy and Jurisprudence are the most common stepping stones to high judicial office and to the Ministry of state. Even in aristocratic England, the thing is not unknown. Judge BLACKSTONE, who may be said to be a sort of British TRIBONIAN, is the most memorable instance. Lord STOWELL, the founder of the British school of International Law, is another. In fact, for obvious reasons, the great civilians commenced as eminent dons. Not a few of the most eminent judges of our old Records' Courts and Supreme Courts or of our Law members originally taught at Home. Sir ROBERT CHAMBERS, our second Chief Justice, had occupied the same chair as BLACKSTONE. Bombay's first English Judge had lectured on Jurisprudence in London. Sir WILLIAM JONES, Sir BENJAMIN MALIKI, Sir HENRY MAINE, Sir JOHN PHEAR, Dr. MARKBY and others we could name had been dons before they obtained legal preferment in India. For all that, there is nothing like the same dignity attaching to the Indian chairs of law. Favoritism has denuded them of their glory. A long course of disappointment and consequent disappointment have degraded the Professoriate in public estimation. It has become a prize for nephews and cousins-german and brothers Scotch—the refuge of poor devils without proper occupation in a glutted bar.

There is no learned or legal or Secretariat or political office in the Empire to which Mr. TELANG is not equal, and equal according to the highest standard. What good? At the best, he is but a brilliant waste. While Russia makes a Mussulman subject her Governor of Penjleh, her newest acquisition of Mahomedan territory, we are reduced to congratulate ourselves that one of our greatest men has been permitted to act as a teacher of law till the return of the European incumbent.

DORFNER is dead. He was a great man after his kind, though scarcely a wise man in his generation. For, he nearly always suffered in the *long run* that he from time to time frequently enough, took, away from the circle of his duty and obligations. He was the greatest scamp of the camp in our day. But for all his desertions he was almost sure to get his deserts. He received 30,000 lashes, and deserted 13 times. The force of fickleness could no farther go! Love is accused of inconstancy, in the fret of love and from the desire for more and for visible tokens, than in right earnest. Here was treason unaccountably inconstant to the extent of a disease. A man who from baseness, as in the present case, deserts once may easily desert another time. Nay, he may desert again and again. Half a dozen times' change of colors would, however, exhaust the baseness of almost any hoary-headed black leg. But thirteen desertions within an active military life of, say, from thirty to thirty-five years! This is too much of a bad thing! They ought to canonise him in Lower Bohemia. He is just the man to be the patron saint of all the poltroonery and scampage of Europe. His prospects in the next world may be guessed. What he gained by his nimble-footedness in this world may be seen from the statement that he died at the age of 60 in a hospital near Steyr.

WITHIN the two decades of its existence, the vicissitudes of Neo-Bramoism have been many and startling. Since the death of its founder, KESHUB CHUNDER SEN, this Indian version of the dispensation of peace on earth and good will towards all men has figured as a sort of Church Militant. At any rate, it has developed a rare capacity for civil war. Its dissensions have been endless. The heirs of the late Minister have taken up the position of the champion of the belt. They have fought all comers. The profound policy of the sire gives the sons an advantage which they are not slow to take. In fact, they have only followed his example, without the advantage of his genius or his prestige. He ousted the Church from the temple by the assertion of his personal rights of property. His sons have kept out of his seat all aspirants to the ministry. The struggle was the signal for a repetition of the same discreditable scenes that had marked its predecessor. These became such a public scandal that foreigners volunteered to arbitrate between the hostile camps of our Latterday Saints. They failed. It was not till both sides were fairly tired that a kind of peace has been patched up. But the spirit of dissension has not been laid. It has again raised its head—now in the midst of the family circle. The omnipotent heirs of the Prophet have quarrelled with his clerical brother, and the latter has gone to the wall—the meek man naturally retiring to a corner. Babu KRISHNA BEHARI SEN has, from the life-time of his elder brother, been conducting the political organ of the party, the *Liberal*; and, since the Founder's death, he has also been conducting the theological organ, to which KESHUB CHUNDER had latterly confined himself, the *New Dispensation*; and conducting both with ability, almost single-handed, notwithstanding other and exacting occupations. It is no wonder that he should not always come up to the expectations of the Apostles sitting in their solitary Durbar or contemplating literature and theology from the safe distance of their Purgahs. What editor but is the victim of "candid friends?" These apparently worked upon KESHUB'S boys, and the upshot of it was that KRISHNA BEHARI was vexed and finally asked to confine himself to his unhallowed politics and leave divine theology to those who understood it. The poor editor, like a wise mah, foresaw the end and gave up both concerns—to the loss of the public at large and the deep injury of the Keshubite cause as the howling *fakers* and dancing *durwashes* of the Conclave will by and by find out.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1887.

### STRANGE FACTS!

QR,

#### THE HISTORY OF A STATE APPROPRIATION.

HOW much so ever the Native Press may abuse and find fault with Englishmen and Anglo-Indians on various and sundry grounds, (and we can in a very great measure sympathise with them for so doing in retaliation for the continuous contumely poured upon them by all the official organs as also by many of the Anglo-Indian newspapers,) yet strange to relate when Natives of India themselves come into collision with the Government concerning Land Appropriation, or, as it would in most cases be more appropriate to term it, "misappropriation"—they almost invariably select Englishmen or Anglo-Indians to champion their cause, well knowing that if they undertake the responsibility and duties of assessors, they will not desert the cause of those who have chosen them. It is also another curious fact that when these cases of appropriation take place, the Government almost as a rule select some native—an abject *Khairkhwa*—to represent their interest, some man ready to betray his own country and countrymen to secure the favor (*purwarish*) of the Burra Sahib of his district for the time being.

For some few years the Mussoorie Municipality have been somewhat put about for a suitable spot in which to bury the sewage of the Sanatorium.

About a year and a half ago they pitched upon a piece of land in the possession of their Vice-President and offered to him the sum of Rupees 10,000 for it. This land was not quite sufficient for their purposes and they therefore wanted to take up some adjacent land belonging to some Hill Zemindars to the extent of about  $\frac{1}{3}$  the area of the land of the Vice-President, and for this they offered these Zemindars the generous sum of Rupees 300! The papers for taking up this land were forwarded, if I am not mistaken, for the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West. But the Civil Surgeon coming to hear of it put his veto against the scheme, as the water which would run through the land saturated with sewage would eventually flow into the stream from which the canal is formed which goes through the lines of the 2 P. W. O. Goorkas and from which they obtain their drinking water.

Having so far failed, one of the members of the Municipality, Mr. J. B. N. HENNESSEY, fixed upon the lands of the village of Bhutta, a village occupied principally by Hill Rajpoots and in which there are at least 36 shareholders in the lands required by the Municipality. The Zemindars objected in toto to give up their land adjacent to their houses for the filth pits of the station, on two grounds, first on account of the unhealthiness liable to be caused to their village by the accumulations of the whole filth of the Sanatorium, second such a sewage farm would be utterly repugnant to their caste prejudices. The Zemindars even went so far as to offer other suitable land that was not in close proximity to their houses, but for some unknown reason or another, the Municipality would not adopt this alternative and applied to take up 50 beegas of the Bhutta land under the Land Acquisition Act. The best of the joke, however, is that although the Members of the Mussoorie Municipality were willing to pay their Vice-President, Rs. 10,000 (I dare say he himself as a Municipal Commissioner voted for the payment of that sum to himself,) yet they did not see the force of paying a like sum for a similar, in fact even better, plot of land to the poor Native Zemindars of Bhutta, and when the owners were unwilling to part with their property, induced the Collector to take it up under the Land Acquisition Act, and if I am not misinformed further instructed the Collector as President of the Municipality to offer the generous and liberal sum of Rupees 1,200, whereas they would have willingly paid their Vice-President Rs. 10,000 for his. This case, unlike the Arni Ghar appropriation case, was not heard by a junior civilian Mr. LAIDMAN instructed by his senior officer the Collector, but, as laid down by law, by the Sessions Judge. The Municipality again took possession prior to the arbitration having taken place and the sum to be paid being fixed by the Sessions Judge. On the piece of ground they had thus acquired under the Land Acquisition Act, they found they could not lead the water of the adjoining stream. So they commenced to cut a channel through land not in their possession or taken up under the Act. Next, they saw there was no stone on the land they had become possessed of, and so commenced to quarry for it on the Zemindars' lands which they had not acquired. Again, they had no concrete with which to mix their lime for building and so commenced taking it away from lands belonging to the Zemindars

which lands they had not too acquired under the Act. Three distinctly illegal acts! Yet when the Zemindars in accordance with the instructions of their counsel Mr. QUARRY stopped the Municipal workmen from trespassing on their land and carrying away material, their property, from it, they received a threatening order from the Collector, and were compelled to allow their property to be taken away contrary to their wishes and inclination. With regard to the Assessors, the Bhutta men appointed as their Arbitrator Mr. J. O'CALLAGHAN, a retired Conservator of Forests, to represent their interests. Whereas the Government did not, under the circumstances, (the offer of the Municipality to their Vice-President of Rs. 10,000 for a like piece of land) dare to appoint an honest Englishman to represent their interests, but appointed as their arbitrator one Lala SIRNI MULL, a member of the Deyrah Municipality and a Public Works Contractor. Mr. O'CALLAGHAN made his award Rs. 8,500 and the Lala Rs. 2,500. His award was made so as to come as close to the offer of the Collector as he dared.

On the case coming on before the Sessions Judge, the honest old Paddy urged the offer of Rs. 10,000 made by the Members of the Mussoorie Municipality to their Vice-President for a like piece of land and likewise pointed out to the presiding Judge that the Appropriation Act was not passed by Government with the object of assisting District Officers to make bargains by taking up under its provisions valuable plots of land for absurdly cheap prices, but preventing rich men from putting fancy prices on land which it might be found necessary for the public good and advantage to take up. Mr. QUARRY presented 36 petitions from the different shareholders and his address to the court and his argument was such that must have found an echo in the heart of any truly honest man.

It is a great thing for the Natives of this country that there are still in India independent Englishmen and Anglo-Indians who dare to act in accordance with their convictions, in opposition to the petty tyranny and oppression of out of the way district-officials. We are waiting with considerable impatience to see what award the Sessions Judge of Saharanpore will make in this case.

*Fiat Justitia ruat cælum.*

ANDREW HEARSEY.

#### THE ANGLO-INDIAN ABORIGINES PROTECTION SOCIETY.

THE European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association held its third annual meeting on the 4th of this month. Sir ALEXANDER WILSON presided, and opened the proceedings with some remarks of more than ordinary significance. "The Association," he said, "had by no means been idle. An idea seemed to have got abroad, that the Association, having steered the community through a severe crisis, was now content to rest on its oars. This was a mistake. There was an immense deal of work done—work which cost the Executive a good deal of intellectual labor—which never found its way into annual reports. He thought that during the past year the Council had exercised its usual vigilance and watchfulness over the community it represented. An impression seemed to prevail and the Rules of the Association supported the view somewhat, that the Association was bound to take up any case in which a European was con-

cerned. There could not be a greater misapprehension. The Council could only take up those cases where a principle was involved or when there had been a glaring miscarriage of justice. It was only as a law-abiding community that they could appeal with any effect." Referring to a falling off from 499 to 450 members, he added:

"It must not be thought that because there was no demand for additional funds, that they could afford to lose the intelligent interest of the community in the affairs of the Association. It should not be forgotten why the Association had been formed, and he hoped they would help to keep it up to its original idea and purport."

The leaders of the Anglo-Indian community are thus determined to place on a permanent footing an organization which was reared up for an apparently temporary object. The organization is of course the effect of no small pains and labor, and once being so complete, and found to be such a power, those who have had a hand in rearing it up can scarcely have the heart to give it up so soon as the immediate object is gained. Nor do such institutions cost much in their mere keeping up. Associations have a vitality of their own, being subject to periodical trances when they live in a state of what is called suspended animation, from which they are wakened only at the impulse of some special emergency. Some writing power in one or two of the leading members is all that is required to keep them from falling out of public sight. An address of welcome to an incoming magnate or a memorial on some burning subject of the day goes a great way in this direction. Such has been the experience of no few associations, and we do not wonder therefore at Sir A. WILSON's pointing to a great deal of intellectual work by way of retort to the suspicion of inactivity against the Association.

There is, it will be observed, both in the Chairman's speech and the published report of the Association a studious effort to avoid giving offence. There is a marked change of tone which must be striking. The objects of the Association must, from the Indian point of view, be in direct conflict with native interests, but a great deal will have been gained, if they are pursued without unnecessary bitterness, not to say, hatred. The memory of the Ilbert Bill agitation and of its excesses cannot be agreeable to either community. The incidents of heated political contests deserve, indeed, to be charitably forgotten, but if their memory now excites mutual regret and quickens a disposition to avoid them in future, that will be a compensation of no mean value. We are congratulating ourselves, perhaps, on what seems to be only an outward appearance of the desired change. Sir ALEXANDER WILSON, exercised, it is true, a commendable reticence in his speech, which happily marks the style of the report also. But that reticence appears to be merely the garb of a good spirit, the reality of which seems to be yet unattained. The radical remedy can of course come with a real change in the spirit, the prospect of which seems to be no nearer than before. The following passages in the report show the old spirit of the Association to be fully alive:—

"On their part there has been an earnest and loyal effort made to bring about common action for the common good, and to put out of sight, in the presence of the plain requirements of the country, all differences founded on sentimental views of the duty of Government, and all that might tend to set class against class or create misunderstandings. The Council one time hoped that the policy they had adopted would command the adherence and support of all parties, and if they have now to report that the task they had set themselves yet remains to be accomplished, it is because the native community, while conceding the desirability of union, are not yet prepared to accept the conditions upon which alone union can be either lasting or useful."

The Council thus feel themselves again called upon to define the position of the European community. That community is not in-



herently antagonistic to the Natives or opposed to the advancement of native interests. It can best defend its own position in India by furthering everything that tends to good government or to the improvement of the material, and social condition of the masses of the Indian population. The Council never have admitted, and never can admit that the European community, as of necessity, occupy a camp hostile to the natives: on the contrary, they have asserted, and must continue to assert that such liberty as India enjoys—a personal liberty as wide as anything known in any part of her Majesty's dominions—is the work of the European community; that that community is the chief factor in the prosperity to which the country has attained; and that to its continued efforts, example, and leadership India must look for whatever successes she may attain in the future."

On the Public Service Commission, the report makes lengthened observations from which we make an extract:—

"The policy of the Government is mainly responsible for any hostility between the communities. The policy, instead of making for union and peace, has gone out of the way to find causes of difference and to provoke jealousies and the clash of interests. Here again the position of the European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association is simple and decided, it has to emphasise the fact that the numbers of a community are no index of its value to the country at large, and no measure of its stake in the stability of the administration, or the permanent prosperity of the Empire. It has further to see that the fact is not lost sight of, that no matter what reform may be sought after, the unchallenged authority of England must be maintained as the sole possible pivot upon which the present and the future of the country can be made to depend. The Association demands no new privilege for Europeans. It asks only that their true importance to the country shall be admitted and their true status in it recognised once for all. This can be done without injustice to the Native. The danger—and the Council, with Sir E. Baring's words before them, have consistently regarded it as a very real danger—is that fairness to all, that is, fairness to the Natives, to the European community, and to England and her many interests in India, may be lost sight of in the endeavour to be over-just and over-righteous, and so be so conservative of Native interests as to sacrifice all others to them. The Association has always advocated that, provided the English character of the administration be admitted, all that it can expect for those it represents is a fair field and no favour. It is not justice or fairness, to deny that Englishmen have a large stake in the country. It is not justice or fairness, on the contrary it is a distinctly dangerous policy, which goes about to produce in the masses of the Native population the idea that nothing can give the non-official Englishman or his descendants the rights which everywhere else would flow from their adoption of the country in which they might elect to settle. Against such ideas and such a policy it will always be one of the chief duties of the Association to protest.

The duty would seem likely to become more and more imperative if the evidence given before the Public Service Commission is to be taken as a guide to popular Native opinion. Never before has any Commission, not even the Educational Commission, been made a means of putting forward such a mass of ill-digested theories and ill-considerate speculation. The Council perceive with alarm the growth, not of a single healthy opinion but of a multitude of distorted and fantastic theories, the single point of agreement between which is dissatisfaction with the existing administration."

The Association would thus appear to aim at procuring an abrogation of the very policy on which the government of India is founded. That policy is laid down in statutes of Parliament and Royal Charters and, so far, at any rate, as its theory is concerned, is practically beyond recall. The interests of the dominant race have, however, so far, proved strong enough to prevent its thorough realization in practice. Whether this is a result for the ultimate good of the British themselves, is a question for statesmen to answer, but the pretensions of ascendancy based on the superior advantages of the English race ought to be abated, if there is a real desire to conciliate the native population. Prosperity is not advanced by pretension. Whatever the theories and laws of the Government in India may be, the practical issues of life are decided by personal merits, and the interests of the English race are never likely to suffer under what must always be a Government predominantly English in its character. While we ask the Anglo-Indian community to abate their pride, we would also warn our own countrymen not to give them unnecessary alarm by assuming an attitude of arrogance and by setting up idle pretensions which deceive no body. Political advancement is not hastened by claptrap. Premature claims retard their ultimate acceptance. We have far too much yet to learn for indulging in extravagant aspirations.

### THE NATIVE ARMY AND THE JUBILEE.

In the 3rd paragraph in the issue of the *Pioneer* dated 12th May is the following: "The Indian Military Honors' list on the Jubilee day is likely to be a long one, if the Home authorities in their wisdom accept the recommendations sent from this country. Native Officers particularly will share largely in the distribution of rewards, their claims to consideration being admittedly great, though only too often overlooked, owing to the system on which honors generally are apportioned. The *Birthday Gazette* will probably be conspicuous by its absence." I am really glad to perceive that the *Pioneer* has once in the way the honesty to admit "that there are some Natives whose claims to consideration are admittedly great, though only too often overlooked owing to the system on which honors are generally apportioned."

We all know how this apportioning usually takes place, that the recommendations are principally made through the Lieutenant-Governors and Local Governments to the Viceroy and by him to the Secretary of State, who sends up the names so recommended for Knighthoods and Orders to the Crown. Never up to the present time has the Commander-in-Chief been called on for a list of those distinguished Native Officers of the crown who deserve these honors and Orders, and thus in all these lists the Native Indian army has been distinctly conspicuous by its absence.

Perhaps many of your readers are not aware that at the beginning of the present century, the Company's European Officers, however distinguished their services, were not eligible for the Military Order of the Bath. In fact, subsequently such was the jealousy with which the Horse Guards regarded the admittedly distinguished services of the European Officers of the Honorable East India Company's Armies, that when the Order of the Bath was opened to them it was distributed in a most niggardly manner, nor was the Knighthood of the Bath and the Companionship of that Order fairly opened to the European Officers of the Indian Army till such time as it became Her Majesty's Indian Army. We see by the daily press that it is the intention of the Indian Government to send only some dozen Native Cavalry Officers to England to take part in the pageants of the Jubilee celebration. This is another of those mistakes which the Government is constantly making. At least, one Native Officer per Regiment should be selected to be sent to England to take their part in the Jubilee tamashas, and thus shew not only to the English people but the whole world the stamp of men of which the Native Indian Armies are composed. They would not only do this but add considerable dignity and importance to the throne of England in the eyes of Continental nations. Native Officers selected to be sent home should be chosen with reference to these three requirements:—

1. Number of Medals and Decorations.
2. Physique and general appearance.
3. Knowledge of the English language.

There are now many Native Officers in the Indian Army who speak and understand the English language very fairly, and the trip to England would prove to these men a real treat. Again, after they have been some short time in England and prior to their return to India, they should either in a body or in various batches be sent to the various friendly courts of Europe to see the armies of the different Continental Powers such as Germany, Austria, France, Italy, Turkey, Belgium, and some of them, especially the English-speaking Native Officers, with a proportion of those who do not understand the language, be sent back to India via America.

This would really open their minds and eyes with regard to the armies of the various European nations, but those nations would in a great measure be able to judge of the material of which our Native Indian Armies are composed as they would know and be informed that the rank and file were composed of such men as they saw, as almost in every case the Native Indian Officer rises by his worth and merit from the ranks. With regard to sending some of the most intelligent back home through America, they would be able to satisfy themselves as to even what an extent of the world the English language was spoken. I do not think a single member of the Native Press would carp at or object to the outlay of public revenues that would be entailed on the country for this trip, which would not only be a grand holiday for these Native Officers distinguished for their services and loyalty to the crown of England, but their presence could not fail to reflect honor both on the Indian Empire and on the Court of the Empress of India, and perhaps be the means of greatly furthering the suggestion I made in my last pamphlet, viz., the establishment of Military Schools (Indian Sandhursts) in India to which scheme, if I am not greatly misinformed, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught is particularly favorable, and, perhaps thus lead to the formation of an efficient and powerful reserve such as we have strongly urged on the Government. One more important point may also be urged, viz., those Native Officers who are to be distinguished for Military Honors should likewise, even if an excess of one per Regiment be sent to England, receive their honors and decorations direct from the hand of their beloved Empress and from her son the Prince of Wales. I know the loyal character of the Native Indian Officer too well and thoroughly understand and feel

that these honors so bestowed would acquire a treble value in the eyes of the recipients. Our Feudatories might likewise be encouraged to send Native Officers from their troops together with ours at the rate of one per Regiment, of course paying all their own costs and expenses for the same. The Court of our Empress would then present such a mass of the representatives of the Native troops that not even Russia herself could possibly, from all the foreign nations under her control, shew such a muster.

ANDREW HEARSEY.

## Official Paper.

### THE COPYRIGHT CONVENTION.

#### *Convention concerning the creation of an International Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works.*

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India; His Majesty the German Emperor, King of Prussia; His Majesty the King of the Belgians; Her Majesty the Queen Regent of Spain, in the name of His Catholic Majesty the King of Spain; the President of the French Republic; the President of the Republic of Haiti; His Majesty the King of Italy; the President of the Republic of Liberia; the Federal Council of the Swiss Confederation; His Highness the Bey of Tunis,

Being equally animated by the desire to protect effectively, and in as uniform a manner as possible, the rights of authors over their literary and artistic works,

Have resolved to conclude a Convention to that effect, and have named for their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, Sir Francis Ottwell Adams, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, her Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Berne; and John Henry Gibbs Bergne, Esquire, Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Director of a Department in the Foreign Office at London.

His Majesty the German Emperor, King of Prussia, M. Otto von Bülow, Privy Councillor of Legation, and Chamberlain of His Majesty, his Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Swiss Confederation.

His Majesty the King of the Belgians, M. Maurice Delfosse, his Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Swiss Confederation.

Her Majesty the Queen Regent of Spain, in the name of His Catholic Majesty the King of Spain, the Count de la Almina, Senator, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Swiss Confederation; M. Don José Villa-Amill y Castro, Chief of the Section of Intellectual Property in the Ministry of Public Instruction, Doctor of Civil and Canon Law, Member of the Facultative Corps of Archivists, Librarians, and Archaeologists, and of the Academies of History, of the Fine Arts of St. Ferdinand, and of the Academy of Sciences at Lisbon.

The President of the French Republic, M. Francois Victor Emmanuel Arago, Senator, Ambassador from the French Republic to the Swiss Confederation.

The President of the Republic of Haiti, M. Louis Joseph Janvier, Doctor of Medicine of the Faculty of Paris, Prizeman of the Faculty of Medicine of Paris, bearing Diplomas from the School of Political Sciences of Paris (Administrative and Diplomatic Sections), decorated with the Haitian Medal of the third class.

His Majesty the King of Italy, M. Charles Emmanuel Becaria des Marquis d'Incisa, Chevalier of the Orders of Saints Maurice and Lazarus, and of the Crown of Italy, his Chargé d' Affaires to the Swiss Confederation.

The President of the Republic of Liberia, M. William Kœntzer, Imperial Councillor Consul-General, Member of the Chamber of Commerce of Vienna.

The Federal Council of the Swiss Confederation, M. Numa Droz, Vice-President of the Federal Council, Head of the Department of Commerce and Agriculture; M. Louis Ruchonnet, Federal Councillor, Chief of the Department of Justice and Police; M. A. d'Orelli, Professor of Law at the University of Zurich.

His Highness the Bey of Tunis, M. Louis Renault, Professor to the Faculty of Law of Paris, and to the Free School of Political Sciences, Chevalier of the Order of the Legion of Honour, and Chevalier of the Order of the Crown of Italy.

Who, having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following Articles:—

**ARTICLE I.**—The contracting States are constituted into an Union for the protection of the rights of authors over their literary and artistic works.

**ARTICLE II.**—Authors of any of the countries of the Union, or their lawful representatives, shall enjoy in the other countries for their works, whether published in one of those countries or unpublished, the rights which the respective laws do now or may hereafter grant to natives.

The enjoyment of these rights is subject to the accomplishment of the conditions and formalities prescribed by law in the country of origin of the work, and cannot exceed in the other countries the term of protection granted in the said country of origin.

The country of origin of the work is that in which the work is first published; or if such publication takes place simultaneously in several countries of the Union, that one of them in which the shortest term of protection is granted by law.

For unpublished works the country to which the author belongs is considered the country of origin of the work.

**ARTICLE III.**—The stipulations of the present Convention apply equally to the publishers of literary and artistic works published in one of the countries of the Union, but of which the authors belong to a country which is not a party to the Union.

**ARTICLE IV.**—The expression "literary and artistic works" comprehends books, pamphlets, and all other writings; dramatic or dramatico-musical works, musical compositions with or without words; works of design, painting, sculpture, and engraving; lithographs, illustrations, geographical charts; plans, sketches, and plastic works relative to geography, topography, architecture, or science in general; in fact, every production whatsoever in the literary, scientific, or artistic domain which can be published by any mode of impression or reproduction.

**ARTICLE V.**—Authors of any of the countries of the Union, or their lawful representatives, shall enjoy in the other countries the exclusive right of making or authorizing the translation of their works until the expiration of ten years from the publication of the original work in one of the countries of the Union.

For works published in incomplete parts ("livraisons"), the period of ten years commences from the date of publication of the last part of the original work.

For works composed of several volumes published at intervals, as well as for bulletins or collections ("cahiers") published by literary or scientific Societies, or by private persons, each volume, bulletin, or collection is, with regard to the period of ten years, considered as a separate work.

In the cases provided for by the present article, and for the calculation of the period of protection, the 31st December of the year in which the work was published is admitted as the date of publication.

**ARTICLE VI.**—Authorized translations are protected as original works. They consequently enjoy the protection stipulated in Articles II and III as regards their unauthorized reproduction in the countries of the Union.

It is understood that, in the case of a work for which the translating right has fallen into the public domain, the translator cannot oppose the translation of the same work by other writers.

**ARTICLE VII.**—Articles from newspapers or periodicals published in any of the countries of the Union may be reproduced in original or in translation in the other countries of the Union, unless the authors or publishers have expressly forbidden it. For periodicals it is sufficient if the prohibition is made in a general manner at the beginning of each number of the periodical.

This prohibition cannot in any case apply to articles of political discussion, or to the reproduction of news of the day or current topics.

**ARTICLE VIII.**—As regards the liberty of extracting portions from literary or artistic works for use in publications destined for educational or scientific purposes, or for chrestomathies, the matter is to be decided by the legislation of the different countries of the Union, or by special arrangements existing or to be concluded between them.

**ARTICLE IX.**—The stipulations of Article II apply to the public representation of dramatic or dramatico-musical works, whether such works be published or not.

Authors of dramatic or dramatico-musical works, or their lawful representatives, are, during the existence of their exclusive right of translation, equally protected against the illicit unauthorized public representation of translations of their works.

The stipulations of Article II apply equally to the public performance of unpublished musical works, or of published works in which the author has expressly declared on the title-page or commencement of the work that he forbids the public performance.

**Article X.**—Unauthorized indirect appropriations of a literary or artistic work of various kinds, such as adaptations, arrangements of music, &c., are specially included amongst the illicit reproductions to which the present Convention applies, when they are only the reproduction of a particular work, in the same form, or in another form, with nonessential alterations, additions, or abridgments, so made as not to confer the character of a new original work.

It is agreed that, in the application of the present article, the tribunals of the various countries of the Union will, if there is occasion, conform themselves to the provisions of their respective laws.

*To be continued.]*

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1887.

No. 275

## The Week.

HIS Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught left for England by this week's mail from Bombay. The departure was delayed because the Bill sanctioning the absence without avoidance of the Bombay Command was not passed earlier. Here is an instance of the majesty of law, in Her Majesty's dominions. We only wish Her Majesty's other servants in India equally respected the law.

ON the 30th April 1887, there were, in circulation, in the 8 circles of issue—Calcutta, Allahabad, Lahore, Bombay, Kurrachee, Madras, Calicut, and Rangoon—currency notes to the value of Rs. 14,01,64,565; reserve in silver coin Rs. 7,09,03,249; and bullion Rs. 92,68,816.

THE office of Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways, Lahore, is abolished, but an office of Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for Railways, Central Division, is ordered by the Governor-General in Council.

THE late Mir Munshi of the Beloochistan Agency, Quetta, shall henceforth be known as Khan Bahadar Mirza YAKUT KHAN, by order of the Viceroy and Governor-General.

THE Irrawadi Flotilla Company has put on another steamer for mail service between Prome and Mandalay, and communications are now twice a week. Press Commissioner.

MESSRS. STREETER will work the Ruby mines of Burma. For the privilege they pay four lacs of rupees annually, the period of the monopoly not exceeding six years. The contract is granted without prejudice to the existing rights and privileges of native proprietors. The question is whether the native proprietors will be able to maintain their own.

ONE BENI MADHU GHOSE of Belghoria, 24-Pergunnahs, is thanked in the Gazette for his "liberality" of Rs. 600 for a monthly scholarship of Rs. 2, to be called after him, and in the interest of the local Middle School. Could fame descend lower?

THE Raja of Naldanga has hit upon a characteristic outlay. The modern Bengal champion of widow marriage has appropriately founded a medal for encouragement of female education. He has made over to the Magistrate of Jessore stock notes to the value of Rs. 625 for an annual gold medal of the value of Rs. 25 for the best girl of the Jessore District at the middle scholarship examination. It is not to be named the Promotho Bhusan but the Jubilee medal.

THE Health Officer of the Port of Calcutta reports very great increase of venereal disease among European seamen last year. In 1883, there were 237 admissions into hospital; in 1884, they came down to 184; in 1885, to only 170; but in 1886, they rose to 417.

THE condition of the River Hooghly has not been satisfactory. During 1886, 70 human bodies and 4,853 carcasses were found floating as against 50 and 4,136 in 1885, and 86 and 3,975 in 1884. Fort William and other sewage still flows into the river.

ON a representation from Her Britannic Majesty's Minister-Resident and Consul-General in Siam, an agreement has been come to between the two Governments for reciprocal free trade on the Burma-Siam frontier. The British Indian Government proposed

"to enter into an agreement that the overland trade shall be permitted to remain free as heretofore, with the exception, however, of the duties on salt and articles liable to excise when produced in India, and maintaining the freedom of both Governments with regard to the imposition of restrictions on the importation of arms and ammunition."

Under such an agreement all merchandise from Siam would pass freely into Burma, with the above exceptions, and *vice versa*. It is not proposed, however, to include in this arrangement the territories affected by the Treaty of 3rd September, 1883, unless the Government of His Majesty the King of Siam should desire it."

and the Siamese Minister on behalf of his Government agrees that

"The overland trade between Burma and Raheng shall remain free as heretofore, and only on salt and such articles as are liable to inland duty when produced in Siam an excise duty shall be levied."

Both Governments reserve to themselves the right to make regulations for the importation of arms and ammunition.

His Majesty's Government is not prepared at present to include in this arrangement the territories affected by the Treaty of 1883.

His Majesty's Government desires further that all traders should declare the value of the merchandise they carry on passing the frontier station, in order that complete statistics may be kept."

THE Bengal Government has begun to be relieved of its Colleges. The Midnapore College was by last November order made over to the local Municipality with a grant-in-aid. The order is now passed for the Behampore College. Maharanee SURNOMOVEE having agreed to bear the burden of Rs. 1000 a month for five years, the Behampore College passes to a Board of Trustees, thus:—

"In accordance with the proposals made by Maharani Sarnamayi, the Behampore College, and the school attached to it, will have in future an establishment costing Rs. 1,199 rising to Rs. 1,399 a month. The control of the College, administrative and financial, will vest in a Board consisting of seven Trustees, the District Judge and the District Magistrate for the time being, Babu Borkanta Nath Sen, B.L., Babu Srinath Pal, B.L., Babu Shama Dass Roy, Dr. Ram Dass Sen, zemindar, and Babu Gopal Chunder Mookerjee, M.A., B.L., Pleader of the Judge's Court, Moorshedabad. The following members of the existing staff of the College and School will be transferred to other posts in Government service, viz., the Principal, the Assistant Professor of Sanskrit, the Lecturer in Physics, the Head-master of the Collegiate School, the Second Master of the Collegiate School. Future appointments will be made by the Board of Trustees, but the Director of Public Instruction will be always ready to give the assistance of his advice should it be required for the purpose of securing a suitable selection. The Lieutenant-Governor desires to see the inter-school rules made for the common benefit of educational institutions observed in the Behampore Collegiate School. The Lieutenant-Governor sanctions the transfer of the following funds to the management of the Board of Trustees:

The *Hostel Fund*—Consisting of Rs. 14,000 invested in Government 4 per cent. paper, and yielding an annual income of Rs. 560.

The *Building Fund*—Consisting of Rs. 14,000 invested in 4 per cent Government paper, yielding an annual income of Rs. 560.

The *Rajib Lochan Scholarship Fund*—Consisting of Rs. 15,000 invested in 4 per cent Government securities, yielding an annual income of Rs. 600.

It is stipulated that the first-named fund shall be devoted to the maintenance of the hostel attached to the Collegiate School. The Building Fund may be devoted as proposed by Maharani Sarnamayi to the creation of scholarships. The Rajib Lochan Scholarship Fund will continue to be applied to its present uses."

The London Missionary Society made an offer for the College, but their terms could not be liberal like the Maharanees, and the Government following the Education Commission's recommendation, prefers a native body to a Missionary Society for management of the College.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

THE Editor of *Volks Zeitung* sued Prince BISMARCK for libel in that the Prince attacked the newspaper in the Reichstag. The Court, however, held that no civil suit lies, BISMARCK being a German General. The editor must try the military tribunal. But he has preferred an appeal.

SHEIK MEHR ALI, convicted, in the Hoshiarpore Riot case, of rioting and abetment of murder and condemned to capital punishment and confiscation of property, has been acquitted by the Lahore Chief Court, Judge Sir MEREDYTH PLOWDEN finding (Justice POWELL concurring) the evidence for the prosecution utterly untrustworthy.

These untrained Civilians who preside in the District Courts, have no notion of what constitutes evidence. There is no hope of justice in the country, unless experienced lawyers and educated "Baboos," whether Bengali or Panjabi, Maharatta or Madrasi, are substituted.

A BENCH of Honorary Magistrates—an attorney of the High Court presiding—have, on the prosecution of an attorney of the same Court, sentenced one MAHOMED IBRAHIM for theft of a pocket edition of the Evidence Act from the Court of Mr. Justice PRINSEP, High Court, to six months' rigorous imprisonment, "inasmuch as he had stolen the book from the precincts of the High Court, he having some pretension to education."

What would the Magistrate have said to the learned University men who have been convicted of the same offence and in respect of the same article? The barrister, who, some years back after long waiting for a brief, stole a book to get a meal, he would, of course, have committed to the sessions with a strong recommendation to have him hanged, drawn and quartered.

MACAULIFFE vs. BROWNE has ended disastrously to the Plaintiff Judge. The *Statesman* publishes a telegram that

"The Chief Court gave judgment in the case of Macauliffe vs. Browne. Mr. Macauliffe has been convicted of giving false evidence and all the charges brought against him by Mr. Browne have been proved. Mr. Macauliffe is divisional judge of Sealkote."

The *Civil and Military Gazette* thus reports the judgment :—

"Judgment has been delivered in the 'Sialkot case'; and in another column we give a summary of Mr. Justice Burney's decision, which deals with the disputed questions of fact with great clearness and force. From this it appears that Mr. Browne's case is considered to have been proved; and in consequence, that the evidence of Mr. Macauliffe and his witnesses, where it conflicted with that of the defence, has been disbelieved. This evidence, it must be remembered, was tendered on oath; and it is obvious that when a judge has been practically convicted of giving and causing to be given, false evidence on oath, some serious steps must be taken to vindicate the fair name of the Service to which he belongs. The Punjab Civil Service has hitherto been happily free from 'scandals.' We have had no 'Cambay case' or 'Sullivan case.' Now, thanks to Mr. Macauliffe, the clean record of the province has a blot which will long be remembered. This is the salient point of the decision which has been given. When we have the full text of the judgment before us, we shall be able to deal with the whole case at the length which its importance deserves. Meanwhile it suffices to say that, upon the evidence, no other judgment could, in our opinion, have possibly been arrived at by any impartial critic. Mr. Browne does not come off altogether without blame. Under great provocation he behaved with disrespect to the court before which he was engaged in a suit, and has been warned against a repetition of the offence. But this is as nothing to the offence of which Mr. Macauliffe has practically been convicted."

THE costly easement suit of the Delhi and London Bank vs. Hem Lall Dutt, which occupied the Court of Mr. Justice TREVELYAN some time, has been disposed of in favour of the defendant. The Plaintiff Bank sued to restrain the Baboo from building on land immediately to the south of its Premises in Council House Street so as to diminish or obstruct the light and air, and valued the damages at Rs. 50,000. The Bank contended that both the premises originally belonged to the same vendor and that the parties having purchased of one and the same person in 1836, the properties ought now to enjoy the same easements as then. There was an *ad interim* injunction against the defendant not to further proceed with the new building, but it was dissolved on his undertaking to pull down the obstructions if the case went against him.

The issues were

(1) Are the plaintiffs entitled as against the defendant to the access and use of light to their premises free from obstruction in the same manner as the same was enjoyed at the date of the conveyance of March 1836?

(2) If so, how was it then had and enjoyed?

(3) Are the plaintiffs entitled as against the defendant to the access and use of air to their premises free from obstruction in the same manner as the same was enjoyed at the date of the conveyance of March, 1836?

(4) If so, how was it then had and enjoyed.

(5) What access of light, if any, have the plaintiffs acquired to their premises by possession or prescription?

(6) What access of air, if any, have the plaintiffs acquired to their premises by possession or prescription?

(7) Has there been any actionable infringement of plaintiffs' rights?

(8) If so, to what remedy is the plaintiff entitled?

(9) What damage has been caused to defendant in consequence of the *ad-interim* injunction?"

The finding on the issues by Mr. Justice TREVELYAN is :—

"On the 1st and 2nd issues I find that the plaintiffs are entitled to so much of the use and access of light over the defendant's premises as is reasonably necessary for the comfortable habitation of their premises. On the 3rd and 4th issues I find that the plaintiffs are entitled to so much of the use and access of air over the defendant's premises as may be necessary to prevent those premises being rendered unfit for habitation or business. On the 5th issue I find that the plaintiffs have acquired by prescription the access of the amount of light mentioned in my answer to the 1st and 2nd issues. On the 6th issue I find that the plaintiffs have acquired by prescription the access of the amount of air mentioned in my answer to the 3rd and 4th issues. On the 7th issue I find that there has been no actionable infringement of the plaintiffs' right, and accordingly I find in answer to the 8th issue that the plaintiffs are entitled to no remedy. The 9th issue will be referred to the Registrar. The suit must be dismissed with costs."

The judgment will be appealed against, of course. The Bank having gone so far must go to the bitter end. It was at no small pains to enlighten the court. Not content with the usual plans, it ordered elaborate models of the several houses and the neighbourhood concerned. All Love's—or at least the Bank's Labour Lost, unless the superior bench may be made to understand the cruelty of deprivation of the southern breeze in this climate, after a prescriptive enjoyment of half a century. The Bank can only try.

WE take the following from the Parliamentary proceedings :—

#### "STRONG DRINK IN INDIA."

Mr. S. Smith, on the 22nd, ult., asked the Under-Secretary for India whether his attention had been called to the strong opposition of the native population of the district of Oolooberia, in Bengal, to the introduction of the out-still system for the manufacture and sale of strong drink; and whether he would call the attention of the Government of India to the matter.

Sir J. Gorst: A correspondent of a weekly native newspaper in Bengal, having a circulation of 700, stated last February that he had learnt that the people of Oolooberia were about to petition against an alleged intention of the authorities to establish ten out-stills there. I do not think it needful to bring so vague a statement to the notice of the Government of India, especially as the Bengal Excise Commission only three years ago reported that the central, as opposed to the out-still, distillery system should be maintained in Oolooberia.

#### BURMAH.

In answer to a question from Mr. Bradlaugh, on April 26, Sir J. Gorst said: The reports from Burmah which have been received by the Secretary of State are not unsatisfactory. Attacks on outposts have taken place in some parts of the country. We have news of one station having been burnt and one telegraph wire having been cut, but not of any policemen having been killed in any recent attack. Lunglei was attacked on March 11 by 300 dacoits, who were beaten off with heavy loss to themselves and none to the defenders of the post. In order to pacify the country, it has been necessary to break up the bands of dacoits, and in this operation many petty actions have necessarily taken place. No information has reached the Secretary of State that the population of Mandalay has refused to pay the house and land or any other tax.

Mr. Bradlaugh asked whether the hon. gentleman could give the House any information as to the news telegraphed to the newspapers about Burmah yesterday and today.

Sir J. Gorst said he had not seen the newspapers in question, and he was not able to give any information on the subject.

Mr. Sheil asked whether police officers in Burmah, some of whom had seen active service and had acquired the Burmese language, had been superseded by men from India of shorter service and lower grade; whether the Inspector-General of Police, Lower Burmah, had represented to the Government the injustice that had been done to his junior officers; and whether the Government of India would take into consideration the grievances complained of.

Sir J. Gorst: The Secretary of State has no information whatever on the subject referred to. As a matter of course, any grievances complained of will be duly considered by the proper authorities in India.

#### INFANT MARRIAGES IN INDIA.

Mr. J. G. Talbot, on April 28, asked whether the attention of Her Majesty's Government had been called to a recent case in India referred to in a letter signed "F. M. M." in the *Times* of the 21st of April; and whether Her Majesty's Government were prepared to take such measure as would prevent for the future the enforcement of infant contracts of marriage by English law framed for entirely different conditions of society.

Sir J. Gorst: I must refer to an answer which I gave to a question on this subject on March 18. I then stated that, as the case might be the subject of appeal, the consideration of the expediency of legislation would, in the opinion of the Secretary of State, be premature. The

case is now, I believe, under appeal, and while the legal proceedings are still pending, the Secretary of State adheres to the opinion already expressed.

#### INDIAN CIVIL SERVANTS.

Mr. Buchanan asked whether the Under-Secretary of State for India had any information that Mr. C. G. Master, Member of the Council of Madras, was, in 1885, and for several years preceding, proprietor of a tea and cinchona estate at Ootacamund, which was worked by him for commercial purposes in violation of the Civil Service convention, and whether others were shareholders in the North Travancore Land Planting and Agricultural Society (Limited.)

Sir J. Gorst: The information in the possession of the Secretary of State is that the land in question consisted of 50 acres appurtenant to Mr. Master's dwelling, partly planted with tea and cinchona trees; that it was not worked for commercial purposes, but that in 1885 a sale of cinchona seedlings was made to Mr. Master's son, which was censured by the Government of India as a trading transaction. The Government of India issued orders in 1885 positively forbidding the cultivation by Government officials for purposes of profit of tea and cinchona on lands connected with their dwellings. I do not know whether Mr. Master is still the owner of the land in question. It is not contrary to the rules for a Civilian to be a shareholder in such a company as that named, provided he takes no part in the management. The matters referred to have already been fully inquired into and dealt with by the Government of India and the Secretary of State."

A WOMAN in not uneasy circumstances has been sent to prison for seven long years by the Paris Assize Court, for starving her little daughter to death, for the mother was not disposed to spend her money.

FRENCH is proscribed in Alsace-Lorraine. The Nun teachers in primary schools are not allowed to complete their own instruction at Nancy convents. It is thought desirable that the teachers should not know French, lest it interfere with the Germanising process in the ceded Provinces.

AFTER an enquiry of 3 months, during which the accused was lodged in jail, the Chief Magistrate has sentenced BHOLANATH, on charges of (1) cheating by personation, Section 419 I. P. C., (2) cheating, section 420, personating a public servant, Section 170, and criminal breach of trust (Section 406) in respect of Rs. 2-10-6, being the municipal license fee paid by Sheik SOLYMAN, a petty trader, to 18 months' labor. BHOLANATH was an informer under a License Inspector and realized the sum from SOLYMAN representing himself a license Sircar. SOLYMAN was also called upon to answer a charge of neglect of payment of license tax under the Municipal Act, and it was while he was complaining to one Magistrate of the injustice done him by the municipal summons, another Magistrate at the instance of the Inspector passed orders against SOLYMAN. BHOLANATH was arrested the same day in Court and produced before the Chief Magistrate. The case illustrates the loose administration in the License Department—to which it has drifted in a long course of nominal supervision. It had been a model department after its reorganization by Mr. BEVERLEY. A new officer has now been appointed at its head and there is a Committee sitting. We hope the Committee will soon come to a decision, if only to allow the young License Officer to realise the expectations of his friends and the officiating Chairman, and recover the reputation of the License Office.

THE Prabhus of Bombay have started a charitable fund to provide for the widows and orphans and other hopeless members of the community. Pursuant to a circular under the hand of HURISH CHANDRA VITHOBA, SHAMRAO AMBERNATH and four others, a meeting of the Prabhus was held on Sunday (May 15) afternoon at Zafer Bagh, near Ramwadi. In the absence from illness of Sirdar VINAYEKRAO VASUDEV, Rao Bahadoor NANA MOROJI took the chair. SHAMRAO AMBERNATH KIRTIKAR gave a history of the movement, and then another KIRTIKAR (Rao Bahadoor VASUDEV JAGANNATH) moved the first Resolution for the formation of the Fund in a graceful well delivered speech. He was seconded by a third KIRTIKAR (the well known doctor K. R. K. who has exploded the pious game of *Rukniharan*.) Mr. PANDURANG BALBHADRA proposed a committee to draw up a scheme for management and was seconded by yet another KIRTIKAR (Mr. ATMARAM JAGANNATH). The speech of the afternoon was Mr. GANPAT SADASIVA RAO'S who in most eloquent terms proposed the thanks of the meeting to the six Prabhus who had started the movement. Of course this suggestion was enthusiastically adopted. Then followed thanks to the chair. The whole closed with the recital of some Marathi songs composed at particular request by Surgeon KIRTIKAR. These were of the nature of the "national songs"

which have become such a feature of our entertainments in Bengal. The Prabhus have begun well. Already some Rs. 35,000 have been promised. But we must frankly tell them that however good for a beginning, much more is needed if there is to be a permanent provision for their destitute. There are only five subscribers of Rs. 1,000 or upwards. The highest subscribers are Sirdar VINAYAK VASUDEV and VINAYAK RAMCHANDRA LUKSHMAN, who each give Rs. 1,500. Mr. ANANDRAO VINAYAK, Surgeon KIRTIKAR and Mr. V. J. KIRTIKAR subscribe each Rs. 1,000. There are two other subscribers of the latter ilk, Messrs. BALKRISHNA VASUDEV and ATMARAM JAGANNATH, the former for Rs. 500 and the latter for Rs. 250. The KIRTIKARS in fact mustered strong on the occasion and behaved handsomely.

### Editorial Notes.

THE weather was in the beginning of the season milder than usual. But towards the end of last week it became oppressively sultry and even hot, the quicksilver rising to 100 in the shade. The rooms at night became ovens which the waving punkah could scarcely make fit for human habitation. For our part, we passed the nights in the open terrace. On Saturday, in search of a really cool breeze, we repaired to the middle of the Hooghly Bridge. Thus it went on, till the night of Tuesday last, when there was a show of clouds in earnest. From early next morning, there was high wind with an occasional thin drizzle, sometimes very thin, in the afternoon of Wednesday. The wind continued unabated and on Thursday it was evident we were on the skirts of a cyclone and there was more rain. The rain subsided the next day but the wind continued, till a late hour in the evening of yesterday.

The temperature has, of course, sensibly cooled. This is an agreeable introduction to the regular monsoon, which will take at least a week if not two weeks, in reaching us. Till then we may have another short and sharp purgatorial experience. Sufficient for the day is the good thereof.

IN Upper India matters are worse. The fiery breeze called *Loo* is a positive torture, and the suffocating dust-storms with their fine sands shot into the eyes and ears and noses and mouth, madden the most heavenly tempers. There the custom is from time immemorial for the people to sleep out of doors. The better classes are out all night on their flat roofs—the poor sleep on the public roads. Conceive therefore the folly and tyranny of the Magistrate in the N. W. Provinces who has lately prohibited this use of public thoroughfares!

WE purposely abstained from specially noticing the recent Bengali promotion in the Civil Service of this province. Bengalis having been by law admitted into the Service, they must in due course obtain the preferments to which they are entitled, provided they are fit for them. These our countrymen in question have got, and nothing more. And all honour to the Governor who has done the act of justice. All the more that his predecessor had not only kept our people out, but also such of his people as, like Mr. COTTON, showed any love for the poor Indians. But it is undesirable to make any fuss about the tardy recognition of rights. The way in which some of our native friends are disposed to talk on the subject, can only embarrass Government and will be no kindness to the officers themselves. The Government is in need of all the assistance the Press can give and the native press can do yeoman's service by a manly moderation. The temper of the European public in India is just now ominously sullen. Before leaving office, Sir RIVERS THOMPSON gave mortal offence to our European fellow-subjects by his desperate attempt to ingratiate native opinion in the Rungpore Deer Case. His successor's regime of quiet firm justice has not tended to improve their temper. Any demonstrative jubilation or indiscreet comments might precipitate another conflict of races, the end whereof no man can foresee.

Luckily, there is no question of race in the late appointments. If a whole district has been consigned to the chief civil and chief criminal jurisdiction of native officers, Faridpore was just one of the countries in which such a thing might be most safely done. Messrs. B. L. GURTA and B. DE are both able and tried officers, and would do well anywhere.



Mr. K. G. GUPTA is also a highly meritorious officer, popular both among natives and Europeans. We believe his British colleagues in the Service are all pleased to see his merit recognised.

How Mr. GUPTA acquitted himself of his difficult charge in Jessore, may be seen from a letter we have received from that District. Our Correspondent writes :—

"On Tuesday before last Jessore witnessed a scene the like of which had never occurred within our memory. It was the last day of Mr. Gupta as head of the District, and the whole place was full of expressions and signs of genuine regret at the loss of so good an official. Mr. K. G. GUPTA'S short stay at Jessore as the District Magistrate has proved beneficial to the entire community of the District. He was liked alike by natives and Europeans. He has proved that he possesses not only a sound head but a good heart too. The Jessore public, consisting of people of different callings, to shew their gratitude towards him mustered strong at the Railway platform on the 18th instant at 10-30 A.M. The station house was tastefully decorated with flowers and evergreens. Mr. GUPTA with his family arrived at the Railway station and was there received by the Rajah of Naldanga, the Zemindar of Ramnagore and Bagchar, almost all the higher grade pleaders and many of the lower grade pleaders and mooktears. There were present, besides, a good number of spectators belonging to other classes of society. Every man present felt that in Mr. GUPTA he was losing a sincere well-wisher of Jessore and gave vent to his feelings. The ceremony of bidding farewell, though not grand, was imposing. At 11 A. M., the train moved off amidst loud cheers."

THE Cambay Scandal has got into the British Press. The several journals have an opportunity of showing their knowledge of the East. The *World* represents the politicals as a race of poor persecuted British officials, without power or influence, and absolutely at the mercy of the chiefs to whom they are accredited and of the natives at court. And it quotes MACAULAY'S rhetorical character of the Bengalee of half a century ago to discredit the testimony of the Mahrattas and Gujraties and others of to-day. This writer evidently believes with the innocent majority of his people that all India is in the same place—that Calcutta and Cambay, Peshawar and Patna, Madras and Murree are all neighbouring towns, if not different quarters of the same city. He, indeed, goes farther, apparently thinking all Indian history to be contemporaneous. Social evolution, in his philosophy, is confined to Europeans.

The *Indian Spectator* has, we see, a calm and able communicated leaderette on the subject.

THE private transactions of Mr. BEAMES with his creditors have been taken up by the whole press. Not only the native part of it, but some of the great Anglo-Indian organs have spoken in no uncertain sound. The *Pioneer* justly remarks that the case demands more than an unauthorised statement that Mr. BEAMES has satisfactorily explained the matters to Government. Our Allahabad contemporary draws a just analogy between the case and that of Mr. PARNELL with reference to the accusation of the *Times*. It is refreshing to have such an opinion from the leading journal. But in justice to it, we are bound to remember that the *Pioneer* it was that distinguished itself most in the work of routing the nest of unfaithful servants of the public in the Madras Civil Service. The Viceroy may have something to say to the BEAMES scandal. He would be wise in coming out betimes, before a question is asked in either House. Mr. BEAMES persisting to sit at the hearing of the Burdwan adoption case at the Board of Revenue has aggravated the prejudice against him.

WE received too late for insertion in our last, the following telegram from a Mahomedan of Cuttack :—

"Numerous scandals in Orissa of Civilian Nawab Mr. BEAMES will soon be published for distribution in pamphlets. Babu DINONATH BANERJEE, Honorary Secretary Orissa People's Association, requests all the Hindu and Mahomedan Associations in India to celebrate the death day of the great pious emperor AKBAR to make our Indian loyalty living. The Government is said to have been unaware of the attachment of the estate in Poore temple case though the Rani has been insulted to the extreme. A representation must be made by the public to get those who are at fault punished."

THE Derby Sweep which as formerly managed at Peshawar came to a discreditable end, has now been taken up by the Bengal Club,

to the relief of all who in this dreary climate wish to share in a little excitement in the way of trial of chance, under an assurance that it is a fair trial. As public lotteries are against the law, there is no advertisement, but the thing is well-known in "society," and although ostensibly confined to the members of the club, practically almost any body can get a ticket for Rs. 10 if he is minded to do so. The drawing for this year's race took place on Saturday. A native serving in an office in the precincts of the High Court drew Baron, the favorite horse. That itself was a prize, as the ticket could at any time within two or three days have been sold for Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 25,000. If the horse won, the holder of the ticket would have been sure of a fortune of near a lac of Rupees. The Baboo would have been well-advised to have disposed of his ticket for what he could get without standing the chance of the race. For now we find that, after all, as in so many cases in life, it is the dark horse that has won the day. Baron came out second, Merry Hampton being first. Martley was third.

THE *Bengal Times*, noticing an article of the *Muslim Herald* on plagiarism full of righteous sentiments, points out that the practice of the tiny champion of Islam in the South does not square with its precept, inasmuch as the *Herald* had transferred to its columns without acknowledgment one of the *Bengal Times*' paragraphs. The Dacca journal itself is not above the same offence. Perhaps its offence is the more rank inasmuch as it does not scruple to "convey" from that part of the press for which it affects supreme contempt—the native-edited papers as in its choice language it always delights to call them.

ABOUT the middle of last year, Professor SHELTON of the State Agricultural College of Kansas, on the strength of certain experiments, recommended warm water for milch cows' drink as a certain increaser of milk by  $8\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. A New Jersey *goula*, owner of a herd of 25 milch cows, systematically pursued the same experiment in last winter and found it to answer admirably. And no wonder. The poor creatures relished the warm drink and imbibed it in right earnest and in proper quantities. The American farmer set up a four horse power steam boiler in his dairy to heat the water. He turned the steam on just to take the chill off the water, when the cows had no longer their former repugnance to drink in winter. The result of this warming their water was remarkable. It increased the yield of milk by twenty quarts a day.

It is said that this treatment not only increases the lactic secretion but improves the breed all round, promoting the general health, developing the muscular system and augmenting weight. Be that as it may, taking it only on its influence on the lactic capacity, this is doubtless an important practical discovery in cattle-keeping—one directly beneficial to mankind. Whether it will produce the same results in the East, remains to be seen. Perhaps not. Here, there is no repugnance to drink, as a rule. It may be different in severe winter, particularly in exposed situations where the experiment may be distinctly beneficial. We hope some of our readers will remember to try it, and if possible let us know the result. It is out of the question just now. With the thermometer above a hundred Fahrenheit, in the cow sheds, it will be a positive torture to heat the water for the cows' drink. The water is warm enough without artificial heat.

THE Suburban Municipal Commissioners are enjoying their late triumph against their Chairman—shall we say, much as many of the Negroes enjoyed their first consciousness of the end of slave status? Such at least is about the impression made on us by a contemporary's account of a demonstration that took place at Bhowanipore. It appears that on Sunday Babu ASHUTOSH BISWAS, one of the leading spirits of the Municipality Militant, and who spoke their luckless Chief to distraction, commemorated their triumph of Self-Government by a monster eating *mujlis*. We hope it was not like one of his friend SURENDRA NATH BANERJEE'S monster meetings of *rayyets* inconsolable for the absence of Parliamentary government in India. The whole thing was of the suburbs strictly suburban, and managed in a way of its own not urban. There had been no intimation to the public, and of course no reporters of the morning papers attended. Only the Kayastha portion of the native press seems to have been invited. Never mind. It is only necessary to know that the public are not being hoaxed or otherwise deceived. On that point, the testimony of

the *Amrita Bazar* is sufficient. Our brother calls it "a grand dinner party," and so far as numbers go, it was monstrous grand, to be sure. He gives fifteen hundred to seventeen hundred as the number of the assembled guests. As the *Amrita Bazar* is a famous Vaishnava, and *ex-necessitate* a teetotalter, there is no excuse for discounting his figures as influenced by postprandial enthusiasm. The only particular given about the personnel of the party is that "a very large number of the leading men in Bhowanipore and Calcutta were invited" and, it may be taken for granted, attended. Nothing in these days without "leading men" in the Lower Provinces or "Reises" in the Upper! But our friend Mr. BISWAS succeeded in bagging the whole tribe, as indeed it was necessary for him to do in order to bring the party up to its full complement of 1,500 or 1,700. Here, we suspect, were concentrated his best energies. It was no joke. You may easier gather all the Talents together than all the leaders, specially of a community so divided and, indeed, without a leader. His definition seems to be a strict one, eliminating many who were included in the lists of other houses like those of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Commander-in-Chief and the Viceroy. Nevertheless, he amassed a large mass of "leading" if not of "light." For the rest, the *Amrita Bazar* (which, by the way usually deals not in Amrita but rather in bitters often wholesome—in the end) stops short in its description at the numerical statement, leaving each of its readers to supply the rest for himself as best he may. How the guests were accommodated we are not told, whether the invited host were all compressed in this lovely May weather under the inviting host's hospitable roof, or whether they were separately billeted on the neighbours, in which case there was feasting if not rejoicing in every respectable house in that quarter. Nor whether it was all a regular Hindu *bhoj* served in banana or *sal* leaves, or a dinner in the European style to which Young Bengal is partial.

We suspect this Self-Government Jubilee banquet was a mixed yarn—partly the one and partly the other. And for very good reasons. ASHU Baboo would scarcely expect all his leading men to squat on the damp floor and, with perspiration streaming from every pore, consume heaps of indifferently fried butter-leavened Indian bread. It would be preposterous to place before the Mysore Princes of the neighbourhood plantain leaves for dinner as if they were cattle. At the same time, nothing—not even the opportunity of dishing with due deference a dozen Civilian chairmen—would induce his municipal mate, Dr. GURUDAS BANERJEA, to eat forbidden fruit—food tabooed by the Hindu ceremonial ordinances. There is yet another consideration. A European dinner for 1,500 to 1,700 heads is rather a serious entertainment in every sense. It takes one's breath away to think what the Great Eastern Hotel would charge for it. We do not name any others of the public caterers advisedly. The Great Eastern is the only restaurant in Calcutta that can supply such an order or decently manage such a colossal banquet. Even a mixed dinner, partly in the old Hindu, partly in the European, and partly perhaps in the Mahomedan style, must be a costly affair. Great as is the Baboo's success at the Alipore criminal bar, Baboo ASHUTOSH is only a pleader and his time was for many years occupied by, and is still in some measure engaged in, literary and public activity. He has given an unmistakable proof of his interest in Local Self-Government, as befitted one of the principal speakers at the earliest meetings on the announcement of Lord RIPON's Resolution, held at Baranagar and Bhowanipore.

Now that the Opposition in the Suburban Corporation have not only exhibited their force of argument and their weight of numbers but have had the celebration of their triumph, we do earnestly hope they are now in a mood to be generous. They should lay their pen aside and give holiday to their tongues. They should of course avoid any unseemly exhibitions. They may stuff themselves, even in this grilling weather, with any quantity of *poorees* or *pilau*, or even chops and cutlets, but they need not eat as if they were maunching the head of Mr. FORBES or Mr. SWINHOE or Mr. OWEN, if only for the good of their digestion and their future health. Why, there are goats and lambs to any number to be had at the neighbouring shrine of Kalighat! Europeans are not particularly toothsome, are they? One swallow does not make a summer, and a single action does not always end a war or even a campaign. Besides, municipal administration is a practical business, and that can be done well only by harmony of all the powers.

Though men must be prepared to fight when necessary, there is nothing like peace. And we need not remind such scholars as Dr. BANERJEA, Mr. BISWAS, and others on the Board, of the Poet's dictum about the victories of Peace. Let them now all strive for these.

After all, their Chairman only committed an error of judgment, for which we are sure he is now sorry. His kindness to the contractors is an amiable virtue. His desire to protect them was natural and no weakness; it would have been difficult for them to do justice to their engagements under the ill will of the Commissioners whom they appear to have offended under a past regime. Mr. FORBES was unfortunate in his official advisers, perhaps. But our countrymen are deficient in imagination to see these matters of sanitation from the European point of view. Be that as it may have been, we hope nothing more will be done to embitter the controversy. Let there be Peace!

SINCE our opening note on the weather was written, and indeed printed, news has come of a storm in the Bay of Bengal simultaneous with the foul and windy weather in and about town. Most of the light vessels stationed at the entrance to the channels at the mouth of the Hoogly were displaced or adrift or missing. The *Nepaul* which arrived safe at Saugor yesterday morning picked up the lascars of the steam tug *Retriever*; "ship supposed to have foundered." The gale which was felt severely at Chandbally overtook that place at 11 in the forenoon of Thursday. Though houses were blown down and some 20 boats lost, happily no loss of life is yet reported. But it is too early to lay that flattering unction to the soul. There are indeed grounds enough for grave anxiety, if the rumour in town about the *Sir John Lawrence* prove correct. It is said that that vessel, belonging to Messrs. MACNEILL & Co., although she left Calcutta for Chandbally on the morning of the 26th, has not reached that port, and in fact no news of her has yet been received. She is supposed to have been lost. That will be a great pecuniary loss to some body—but it will be remembered that the *Sir John Lawrence* is a passenger vessel, and there were on this trip as many as 750 human beings on board. The loss of such a vessel under such circumstances at sea would be a frightful calamity. Another great loss is that of the *Godwin*, a ship of 2000 tons (1999 tons register) Captain W. ROBERTS, which cleared port with a full cargo bound for Liverpool, Agents—TURNER, MORRISON, & Co. Messrs. MACNEILL & Co.'s *Carlew* and Baboo RAMKISSEN'S *Tyrone* were saved by not leaving the Hoogly; they reached safely Chandbally last night. The *Basfir* in her passage from Chandbally had to put back to port. Anxiety is felt about three other large ships, the *Windsor Park*, *Glennui*, and another, which were at sea. Most of these and others, lost or missing, are good large newly built vessels, and one may well imagine the distress of the insurance offices in their behalf. The owners will not be sorry to lose them, specially in the present state of the freight market. Yesterday, the Government steamer *Resolute* was despatched in search of the light ships and to afford assistance, and this morning the steamer *Madras*, chartered for the purpose by Government, has left with the same object.

The storm appears to have been very severe, not only from the above indications, but also from the report of the Captain of the *Hunsdon* which came yesterday, who says that in his many years in it he had never known the sea so rough, the foam blowing about so thick that nothing could be perceived ahead. We hope there is here the usual exaggeration of the old Tar who has just come victorious out of his struggle with his untrustworthy element. It is the old story. We think we have heard the same thing after every gale. We have the counterpart of the same thing on land. At the mess table—after dinner—almost every bloody engagement tends to become a Waterloo, every tolerable pass fighting a Thermopylae, while every retreat of some difficulty through a length of country is sure to be compared to the antique feat recorded in the classic pages of XENOPHON.

THE result of the Entrance Examination gives—First Division 915; second, 1,736; third 656, or a total of 3,307 passed students.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1887.

### HYDERABAD.

WE have left neither time nor space for enlarging on Hyderabad affairs this week, but the event of the week in that connection is too important to be dismissed without a passing notice. We refer, of course, to the attack on Major MARSHALL, the Nizam's dry-nurse. At this distance, it is difficult to be sure of the facts, but what passes for news from that state is not always even an approximation to the truth. In the present case, the source is obviously tainted. Indeed, the friends of the almighty British "Minister Extraordinary" could not but take good care of his reputation, as they habitually do. We had therefore given out what we hear.

At one of the treasuries the doors are always kept open, although well guarded by military. The object seems to be, to allow of the inside of the room being thoroughly observed by all passers who care to cast a glance that way. Such at least was the reason given. Such was the custom, whatever its value. Major MARSHALL took it into his head that it was not a good practice and he set to reform it in the summary British way. He went to the spot and there and then told the sentry on duty in charge of the door to close it and lock it up and mount guard on the outside. The man, a Rohillah, would not obey. He asked for orders. The Major said that that was his order. The Rohillah was firm, saying he could only obey his own superior officer. He represented to Major MARSHALL that if he wished anything to be done, he should communicate it to the commandant of the treasury guard and that then the Rohillah would receive his order in the proper channel through his own superior which he must obey. He could not take order direct from Major MARSHALL, high as his position was. Thereupon the Major seems to have lost his temper. He forgot himself so far as to use abusive language to the guard, which the soldier answered with a thrust of his bayonet. Luckily, at this moment AFSAR JANG appearing on the scene, snatched the weapon out of the Rohillah's clutch and shoved him off, not, however, before a scratch had disfigured, temporarily we hope, the Major's countenance.

This, we are told, is the unvarnished tale. It has all the appearance of truth. What complexion may be given to the incident, or what manipulation may be exercised on the facts, by European diplomacy or Durbar intrigue, we do not know.

Another piece of information that comes to us having a most important bearing on affairs, is that the Nizam has given MEHDI ALI KHAN notice to quit. No written document, signed, sealed, and delivered, but a quiet but distinct hint that the stranger is not wanted. In fact, His Highness has frankly told MEHDI ALI that he is highly unpopular and must leave. He has already feathered his nest beyond his wildest dream, has, by hook or by crook, made a princely fortune and got a title of nobility, it was time enough for him to retire. He would be foolish to stay any longer. He is very far from a fool,—unless ambition makes him one.

### NEPAL.

THE Revolution in Nepal, after the example of its great predecessor in France, is like Saturn devouring

its own children. The two boys—sons of old DHEER SHUMSHERE JUNG, the trusted brother of the late Sir JUNG Bahadur and the mainstay of the administration after his death—who waded to power through the cowardly slaughter of their aged uncle, Sir RANADIP SINGH, after they had disposed of all whom they feared or chose to suspect, were naturally reduced, for want of other or better objects, to suspect each other. Whether the younger General KHADGA SHUMSHERE JUNG, who held the office of Commander-in-Chief, was or was not guilty of any overt act, he has been seized and consigned, with all his party, to strict confinement in a frontier fort, on the charge of having attempted to shoot down his elder brother the Prime Minister and ruler *de facto*. His ostensible position has been given to RAN SHUMSHERE JUNG. We say "ostensible position," for the real command of the army we shrewdly suspect, remains with the Grand Vizier. There can never be a division of true power. In Nepal it is less likely than anywhere else. Just now it is out of the question. In a military state, without a public opinion, the army is the arbiter of affairs. If KHADGA SHUMSHERE had been the favorite of the army, of which he was the official head, his elder brother would probably have been sacrificed in the attempt to banish him. The Prime Minister is the true Commander-in-Chief.

But the cobra is scotched, not killed. The Khadga is not broken to pieces, but simply shelved, with all its keenness on it, for the present. It will bide its time, and reappear at a suitable opportunity. This the Minister knows as well as anybody. Therein is an obvious source of danger to the latter. Therein, indeed, we remark either a conscious weakness in his power, or an unconscious evidence of personal weakness. He knows better, and must feel more vividly than any one the grave risk of keeping alive the rival brother who has given mortal offence and whom he has given mortal offence. They are foes for ever to the bitter end. No reconciliation is possible in this life—that is, no genuine *entente cordiale*. There is no indulgence or mercy in Nepal—certainly no absolute amnesty, or oblivion for *political* offenders. There is no golden mean, no *juste milieu*. All is direct if not above board—straight if not straightforward: sharp as a razor—to the point as the dagger or the bayonet—unbending as the rock—unrelenting as fate. It is all a toss up there, a turning of the die. The history of administration is a record of massacres; the devolution of power depends upon *coups d'état* and successful tragedy. There is no tedious tedium in the affairs of men in that Asiatic Switzerland. There is certainly no noviciate in public life—no patient waiting—no stepping from office to office. All is swift and sudden. A chance death may upturn a dynasty—a false move has usually to be paid for with life—the lucky shot means power, without distinction of birth or age, without regard to claims. It is a country in which children are general officers—in which a boy may be hoisted up, in the chance of a moment, to sovereign office. But there is no room for hesitation—no time given for deliberation. Half-measures are nowhere more palpably dangerous to the statesman in power.

Knowing well these conditions of political life in his country, as he must do, it passes us to understand how the real head of the Government of Nepal could leave his distrusted and disgraced brother and late colleague alive. Confinement in Nepal, specially for political offences, is a very different thing from the

same state in India or England. Indeed, it is a much more serious matter than even in Russia at the present day. It is a slow but certain death—a killing by slow torture, we imagine. At any rate, we suspect such to be the fate to which General KHADGA JUNG, as well as his fellow-victims, has been consigned. We do not know whether the British Residency is aware of the true situation of the prisoners, the treatment meted out to them and, the danger to health and life to which they are exposed. Perhaps, our representative at Katmandoo gets in answer to his inquiry a diplomatic account which he transmits to the Foreign Office. He himself is little better than a prisoner, being confined to the Residency and its precincts, and unable to go about the country or enter the cities without permission or a Goorkha escort. He certainly has no opportunities of knowing what passes within the walls of Nepalese prisons or in frontier forts, in one of which KHADGA JUNG is said to be immured. This is not as it should be. The days are gone by for the British Representative to be put under such restrictions at any Court in Asia. At this time, the British Power should not tolerate such an indignity. Much as we desire to see the independence of native states to be preserved in full integrity, much as we are disposed to humour native chiefs in their pretensions, even their harmless barbarous pretensions, there are limits to all indulgences, there are extremes of conciliation which may be criminal. As British subjects, whose prosperity is bound up with British power and influence, as subjects glorying in the might and majesty of England, we are far from satisfied with the relations of our Government with this haughty little hill kingdom. We confess we feel a personal humiliation in the antediluvian status which our Representative in Nepal we cannot say enjoys, but rather feels with keen bitterness. It is a legacy of the past—a result of the humiliating history of our connection with that state—of, not to mince matters, our conflicts with Nepal at the beginning of the century. But the subsequent general history of British India has changed the meaning of the chapter of British struggles with Nepal, and taken the sting out of our old reverses in the hills. That history has caused an evolution which has completely altered the relative positions of the two countries. Since then, the greatest ruler of Nepal not only descended down the passes, but went all the way to the seat of British power in Europe, to conciliate it and was proud to receive honours at the hands of our Queen. In fact, British India is now the Empire and Nepal a petty if prosperous and, for its extent and resources, powerful state. The present diplomatic etiquette with its harrassing and humiliating restrictions on the British ambassador in Nepal, has long since been obsolete. It calls loudly for reform. The present is more than even a suitable time for re-adjustment of relations. So far as mere matters of form are concerned, the Viceroy has but to pass the word, and the thing is done!

The present subject affords a good opportunity for diplomatic insinuation. At any rate, the thing may be tried, without fear of complications or compromise of dignity. If ever we could interfere with the moral support of all India and the civilised world, we can do so now under the best conditions, in behalf of the present victims of Goorkha barbarity and fraternal jealousy. Here is a great Nepalese Chief, a nephew of our invaluable ally Maharaja JUNG Bahadoor, and a son of a valuable friend, DHEER SHUMSHERE JUNG, not only thrown, with many of his party

of greater or less degree, into durance vile in all conscience, but consigned to the "damp vault's dayless gloom," on a distant out-of-the-way frontier, and subjected Heaven knows to what unheard of tortures—all on a mere suspicion of crime. For none of these great Nepalese were brought to trial or even, we suppose, confronted with their accusers. If it is not the Goorkha custom to try, let them not be tried. In fact, trial in such cases, even in civilised lands, generally means a farce. But surely the Government may banish the suspects out of Nepalese territory. They may be permitted to live in British India, like so many hundreds of Nepalese in misfortune or under political ban, under surveillance if need be, even in prison, if it should be so insisted upon. Surveillance or imprisonment in such a case will be governed by civilised rules, under the check of public opinion. If the Durbar should insist on detaining them in Nepal, let them be detained in a proper place, to which the Resident shall have access, so that their health may not suffer, nor their lives endangered.

We raise this voice from a simple sense of duty towards fellowmen who cannot make themselves heard or in any way communicate with the world outside their dungeons dark and dreary. We have no personal interest in the subject at all. We never knew the victims or any of their friends, and write at no being's instance, with no body's knowledge.

Of course, if the man in power had taken the lives of his victims, there would have been an end of the matter, whatever detestation he might have merited. We are, indeed, truly surprised that he did not act up to the "grand custom" of his country. We do not believe this departure due to any tenderness, from the effect of the slight smattering of English that he has imbibed, or even to a fear of the British Government, for he knows that the British and the world know the Nepalese custom. We are inclined to think that the ruling minister did not dare. A Goorkha is, if possible, worse than an Afghan, he is not troubled by scruples or compunctious visitings of conscience. He will coolly embowel all his family for an object, and then sit down to dinner with all the better appetite. The minister would have gladly killed all these prisoners off, if he could, and from his point of view not without good reason. It is an act of prudence almost necessitated by the politics of the country. So long as these men are alive, there is no peace for him, because no safety. They will not spare him if they have a chance. They are bound to kill each other under such circumstances of mutual distrust. Hence the greater reason for anxiety for the prisoners in question. As the minister would have killed them, if he could do so, his letting them off on comparatively easy terms gives a clue to the political situation which is such a profound mystery to the outer world, including, we believe, our Government. Such sparing of blood is reckoned a weakness in Nepal politics. It is usually a certain sign of weakness. Such, we suspect, is the present case. The minister's abstinence from bloodshed reveals his position. It shows him to be not strong enough. It can scarcely be a sign of weakness of character. A nervous hesitation to kill, is not the national infirmity: it certainly does not run in the family. We believe the minister's position is not firm. He is distrusted by the nobles, and not believed in by the army. He thought he would not be supported in any attempt to take his brother's life. He would probably have lost his own life if he ventured on the extremity. So he literally made a vir-

tue of necessity. So little is understood of Nepalese affairs, so little trustworthy information passes beyond the frontiers, that any substantial conclusion that may be arrived at on the subject must be an advantage to neighbours so deeply interested in it as the Government and people of India. We think we have in the above got, and given our readers, a true inkling. From that, it follows that affairs are far from settled in that unhappy country. It will be difficult for the minister to maintain himself. We may expect soon to hear of a further development of the state drama—which is usually a tragedy in that state.

We have been cogitating to the above effect for some time, and the greater part of this article has been many weeks in type. Before we have finished it, comes the news that the new Commander-in-Chief General RAN SHUMSHERE, who two months ago had replaced General KHADG JUNG, is dead. The event is attributed to "natural causes," but assassination is among the "natural causes" rife in Nepal. Young Goorkhas don't die like young Indian Rajas.

### SELF-GOVERNMENT IN COURT.

LOCAL Self-Government at Baranagar has got into the criminal court—*en route* to chancery. Our readers will remember that His High Mightiness (as our contemporary of the *Daily News* called him) of the Chair, unable any longer to maintain an unequal war, disadvantaged as he was latterly by the defection of his own allies and creatures, resigned. In the huff or hurry of the moment, or perhaps calculating that the enemy would not be appeased without his complete submission—his absolute effacement—in abdicating sovereignty in the corporation he committed municipal suicide. He resigned both the chair and the member's seat. Accordingly there was an election for each. In the usual course of red tape and the necessity of fulfilling the law's requirements, some months elapsed before the elections came. By that time, feeling his troubles all miraculously ended and much of the rage against him subsided with his retirement, the late chairman would seem to have meditated a sudden return from Elba. He again got himself nominated a candidate for election as a member in his own place. The alarmed corporators at this hastened the election for the chair and, by way of anticipating the Napoleonic descent, placed the floricultural Roy Bahadoor on the throne. Then the other election came. The former Chairman-candidate was not present but his people were there. It was a stiff struggle. All the European forms having been imported, a good deal of Billingsgate was indulged in at the hustings against candidates. One gentleman, a municipal member, was specially severe upon the late chairman for his taste in hankering for a thing that he had himself vomitted out as it were. The presiding officer stopped this kind of remark. Next day, it would seem the contending parties held a parley over the unparliamentary expressions in the open street, and there was a hand to hand encounter even to the spilling of some blood. At any rate, there was a complaint from both sides against each other. A police enquiry was ordered, probably in the hope that the parties would come to an amicable arrangement. The hope was vain.

On the contrary, one of the parties, if not both, pressed for a judicial determination. And they have got it—with a vengeance. Summonses were issued against both sides on the prosecution of the Queen for a disturbance or affray on the Queen's high-way.

On the hearing, the case was proved against all the four alleged brawlers, the member of the corporation of the one part, and three relations of the late Chairman. And to the everlasting remembrance of both sides and the surprise of all men, the British Magistrate, Mr. HOLMWOOD, sentenced each of the defendants to a month's confinement in jail. We believe there was a general "stampede" from the court-house, or else the spectators might have got a licking for their share in the proceedings. The lawyers stood a good chance of being fined by a Magistrate who declared his intention of making an example.

The extraordinary sentence had one salutary effect. Immediately there was peace between the contending factions. They now set to work together to save themselves from the clutches of an inexorable magistracy. There was a search for lawyers and a run with them to the District Judge. An order was soon obtained for letting the prisoners off on bail pending appeal or such other hearing as might be provided by law. But before it could be got the prisoners had been marched to jail, where they had to remain all night, till they were released on the following day. The hearing will take place some day after the middle of next month.

Meanwhile, Baranagar from quarrelling and bandying abuse is weeping and wailing. And well may she cry. Howsoever the matter may end, the disgrace of a night's criminal jail will not be wiped out. Such is Draconian law as worked by a foreign judiciary.

### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 11th May 1887.—Baboo Nobin Krishna Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VII (B. C.) of 1880 in that district.

The 19th May 1887.—Baboo Sheo Nundun Lal Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chumparun, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that district.

Mr. A. H. Collins, c. s., reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 10th instant.

Baboo Petumber Banerjee, Sub-Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is allowed leave for one month and twenty-four days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 14th June 1887.

The 20th May 1887.—Baboo Radha Kant Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Culna, Burdwan, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that sub-division.

Baboo Purna Chunder Bysack, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serajgunge, Pubna, is allowed leave for two months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 14th ultimo.

The 23rd May 1887.—Mr. F. W. J. Rees, District and Sessions Judge, Tipperah, is allowed furlough for fifteen months, under section 50, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 26th July 1887, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. J. H. Rivett-Carnac, c. s., c. l. e., reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 20th April 1887.

Mr. R. Cornish, c. s., reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 22nd April 1887.

Baboo Sree Nath Bhudder, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chittagong, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that district.

In modification of the order of the 19th ultimo, Mr. R. H. Wilson, Officiating Commissioner, Burdwan Division, is allowed leave for one month and ten days, under section 72, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 6th instant.

JUDICIAL.—The 19th May 1887.—Baboo Hem Chunder Mookerjee, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Midnapore, to be ordinarily stationed at Tumlook, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Anund Nath Mozumdar, or until further orders.

Baboo Lal Behari Dey, Munsif of Bhagulpore, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a court up to the amount of Rs. 50 within the local jurisdiction of the Sudder Munsif of Bhagulpore.

The 20th May 1887.—Baboo Srinath Sen, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Cuttack, to be ordinarily stationed at Jajpore, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Gopal Krishna Ghose, or until further orders.



The 22nd May 1887.—Baboo Bungshi Dhur Rai, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Moorshedabad, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

The 23rd May 1887.—Baboo Jadu Nath Goswami, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, to be ordinarily stationed at Scaldah, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Karuna Das Bose, or until further orders.

Moulvi Sayyad Abdul Aziz is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Shahabad, to be ordinarily stationed at Buxar, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Gopal Chunder Bose, or until further orders.

Baboo Nagendra Nath Dhur, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Mymensingh, to be ordinarily stationed at Ishwargunge, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Shambhu Chunder Nag, or until further orders.

Baboo Ashutosh Sirkar, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Dacca, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sudder station, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Purna Chunder Banerjee, or until further orders.

Moulvi Dilwar Hossein Ahmed, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Gya, is vested with powers under section 110 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Baboo Nund Lal De, Munsif of Buddud, in the district of Burdwan, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a court up to the value of Rs. 50 within the local jurisdiction of the Buddud Munsifi.

Baboo Jiban Krishna Chatterjee, First Subordinate Judge, Chittagong, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a court up to the value of Rs. 100 within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Sudder Munsifi of that district.

GRANTS OF LEAVE TO MUNSIFS.—The 17th May 1887.—Baboo Gopal Krishna Ghosh, Munsif of Jajpore, in the district of Cuttack, is allowed leave for three months, under section 128, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

The 18th May 1887.—Baboo Shambhu Chunder Nag, Munsif of Ishwargunge, in the district of Mymensingh, is allowed leave for two months, under section 73, rule 1, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st current, or from the date on which he may be relieved.

## Official Paper.

### THE COPYRIGHT CONVENTION.

*Convention concerning the creation of an International Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works.*  
[Concluded from page 248.]

ARTICLE XI.—In order that the authors of works protected by the present Convention shall, in the absence of proof to the contrary, be considered as such, and be consequently admitted to institute proceedings against pirates before the Courts of the various countries of the Union, it will be sufficient that their name be indicated on the work in the accustomed manner.

For anonymous or pseudonymous works, the publisher whose name is indicated on the work is entitled to protect the rights belonging to the author. He is, without other proof, reputed the lawful representative of the anonymous or pseudonymous author.

It is, nevertheless, agreed that the tribunals may, if necessary, require the production of a certificate from the competent authority to the effect that the formalities prescribed by law in the country of origin have been accomplished as contemplated in Article II.

ARTICLE XII.—Pirated works may be seized on importation into those countries of the Union where the original work enjoys legal protection.

The seizure shall take place conformably to the domestic law of each State.

ARTICLE XIII.—It is understood that the provisions of the present Convention cannot in any way derogate from the right belonging to the Government of each country of the Union to permit, to control, or to prohibit, by measures of domestic legislation or police, the circulation, representation, or exhibition of any works or productions in regard to which the competent authority may find it necessary to exercise that right.

ARTICLE XIV.—Under the reserves and conditions to be determined by common agreement,\* the present Convention applies to all works which at the moment of its coming into force have not yet fallen into the public domain in the country of origin.

ARTICLE XV.—It is understood that the Governments of the countries of the Union reserve to themselves respectively the right to enter into separate and particular arrangements between each other, provided always that such arrangements confer upon authors or their lawful representatives more extended rights than those granted by the Union, or embody other stipulations not contrary to the present Convention.

\* See para 4 of Final Protocol, page 262, col. 1.

ARTICLE XVI.—An International Office is established, under the name of "Office of the International Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works."

This office, of which the expenses will be borne by the Administrations of all the countries of the Union, is placed under the high authority of the superior Administration of the Swiss Confederation, and works under its direction. The functions of this office are determined by common accord between the countries of the Union.

ARTICLE XVII.—The present Convention may be submitted to revisions in order to introduce therein amendments calculated to perfect the system of the Union.

Questions of this kind, as well as those which are of interest to the Union in other respects, will be considered in Conferences to be held successively in the countries of the Union by Delegates of the said countries.

It is understood that no alteration in the present Convention shall be binding on the Union except by the unanimous consent of the countries composing it.

ARTICLE XVIII.—Countries which have not become parties to the present Convention, and which grant by their domestic law the protection of rights secured by this Convention, shall be admitted to accede thereto on request to that effect.

Such accession shall be notified in writing to the Government of the Swiss Confederation, who will communicate it to all the other countries of the Union.

Such accession shall imply full adhesion to all the clauses and admission to all the advantages provided by the present Convention.

ARTICLE XIX.—Countries acceding to the present Convention shall also have the right to accede thereto at any time for their Colonies or foreign possessions.

They may do this either by a general declaration comprehending all their Colonies or possessions within the accession, or by specially naming those comprised therein, or by simply indicating those which are excluded.

ARTICLE XX.—The present Convention shall be put in force three months after the exchange of the ratifications, and shall remain in effect for an indefinite period until the termination of a year from the day on which it may have been denounced.

Such denunciation shall be made to the Government authorized to receive accessions, and shall only be effective as regards the country making it, the Convention remaining in full force and effect for the other countries of the Union.

ARTICLE XXI.—The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications exchanged at Berne, within the space of one year at the latest.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Berne, the 9th day of September 1886.

(L. S.) F. O. Adams; J. H. G. Bergne; Otto von Bulow; Maurice Delfosse; Comte De La Almina Y Castro; Jose Villa-Amil; Emmanuel Arago; Louis Joseph Janvier; E. Di Beccaria; Kœntzer; Droz; L. Ruchonnet; A. D'Orelli; L. Renault.

### Additional Article.

The Plenipotentiaries assembled to sign the Convention concerning the creation of an International Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works have agreed upon the following additional Article, which shall be ratified together with the Convention to which it relates:

The Convention concluded this day in no wise affects the maintenance of existing Conventions between the contracting States, provided always that such Conventions confer on authors, or their lawful representatives, rights more extended than those secured by the Union, or contain other stipulations which are not contrary to the said Convention.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present additional Article.

Done at Berne, the 9th day of September 1886.

(Signed) F. O. Adams; J. H. G. Bergne; Otto von Bulow; Maurice Delfosse; Almina; Villa-Amil; Emmanuel Arago; Louis Joseph Janvier; E. Di Beccaria; Kœntzer; Droz; L. Ruchonnet; A. D'Orelli; L. Renault.

### Final Protocol.

In proceeding to the signature of the Convention concluded this day, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries have declared and stipulated as follows:

1. As regards Article IV, it is agreed that those countries of the Union where the character of artistic works is not refused to photographs, engage to admit them to the benefits of the Convention concluded to-day, from the date of its coming into effect. They are, however, not bound to protect the authors of such works further than is permitted by their own legislation, except in the case of international engagements already existing, or which may hereafter be entered into by them.

It is understood that an authorized photograph of a protected work of art shall enjoy legal protection in all the Union, as contemplated by the said Convention, for the same period as the principal right of reproduction of the work itself subsists, and within the limits of private arrangements between those who have legal rights.

2nd As regards Article IX, it is agreed that those countries of the Union whose legislation implicitly includes choreographic works amongst dramatico-musical works expressly admit the former works to the benefits of the Convention concluded this day.

It is, however, understood that questions which may arise on the application of this clause shall rest within the competence of the respective tribunals to decide.

3. It is understood that the manufacture and sale of instruments for the mechanical reproduction of musical airs which are copyright shall not be considered as constituting an infringement of musical copyright.

4. The common agreement alluded to in Article XIV of the Convention is established as follows :--

The application of the Convention to works which have not fallen into the public domain at the time when it comes into force shall operate according to the stipulations on this head which may be contained in special Conventions either existing or to be concluded.

In the absence of such stipulations between any countries of the Union, the respective countries shall regulate, each for itself, by its domestic legislation, the manner in which the principle contained in Article XIV is to be applied.

5. The organization of the International Office established in virtue of Article XVI of the Convention shall be fixed by a Regulation which shall be drawn up by the Government of the Swiss Confederation.

The official language of the International Office will be French.

The International Office will collect all kinds of information relative to the protection of the rights of authors over their literary and artistic works. It will arrange and publish such information. It will study questions of general utility likely to be of interest to the Union, and, by the aid of documents placed at its disposal by the different Administrations, will edit a periodical publication in the French language treating questions which concern the Union. The Governments of the countries of the Union reserve to themselves the faculty of authorizing, by common accord, the publication by the office of an edition in one or more other languages if experience should show this to be requisite.

The International Office will always hold itself at the disposal of members of the Union, with the view to furnish them with any special information they may require relative to the protection of literary and artistic works.

The Administration of the country where a Conference is about to be held will prepare the programme of the Conference with the assistance of the International Office.

The Director of the International Office will attend the sittings of the Conferences, and will take part in the discussions without a deliberative voice. He will make an annual report on his Administration, which shall be communicated to all the members of the Union.

The expenses of the Office of the International Union shall be shared by the contracting States. Unless a fresh arrangement be made, they cannot exceed a sum of 60,000 francs a year. This sum may be increased by the decision of one of the Conferences provided for in Article XVII.

The share of the total expenses to be paid by each country shall be determined by the division of the contracting and acceding States into six classes, each of which shall contribute in the proportion of a certain number of units, *viz.* :--

1st class	...	...	25 units.
2nd "	...	...	20 "
3rd "	...	...	15 "
4th "	...	...	10 "
5th "	...	...	5 "
6th "	...	...	3 "

These coefficients will be multiplied by the number of States of each class, and the total product thus obtained will give the number of units by which the total expense is to be divided. The quotient will give the amount of the unity of expense.

Each State will declare, at the time of its accession, in which of the said classes it desires to be placed.

The Swiss Administration will prepare the Budget of the office, superintend its expenditure, make the necessary advances, and draw up the annual account, which shall be communicated to all the other Administrations.

6. The next Conference shall be held at Paris between four and six years from the date of the coming into force of the Convention.

The French Government will fix the date within these limits after having consulted the International Office.

7. It is agreed that, as regards the exchange of ratifications contemplated in Article XXI, each Contracting Party shall give a single instrument, which shall be deposited, with those of the other States, in the Government archives of the Swiss Confederation. Each party

shall receive in exchange a copy of the *procès-verbal* of the exchange of ratifications signed by the Plenipotentiaries present.

The present Final Protocol, which shall be ratified with the Convention concluded this day, shall be considered as forming an integral part of the said Convention, and shall have the same force, effect, and duration.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same.

Done at Berne, the 9th day of September 1886.

(Signed) F. O. Adams ; J. H. G. Bergne ; Otto von Bulow ; Maurice Delfosse ; Almina ; Villa-Amil ; Emmanuel Arago ; Louis Joseph Janvier ; E. Di Beccaria ; Kœntzer ; Droz ; L. Ruchonnet ; A. D'Orelli ; L. Renault.

#### *Procès-verbal of Signature.*

The undersigned Plenipotentiaries, assembled this day to proceed with the signature of the Convention with reference to the creation of an International Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, have exchanged the following declarations :

1. With reference to the accession of the Colonies or foreign possessions provided for by Article XIX of the Convention :

The Plenipotentiaries of His Catholic Majesty the King of Spain reserve to the Government the power of making known His Majesty's decision at the time of the exchange of ratifications.

The Plenipotentiary of the French Republic states that the accession of his country carries with it that of all the French Colonies.

The Plenipotentiaries of Her Britannic Majesty state that the accession of Great Britain to the Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works comprises the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and all the Colonies and foreign possessions of Her Britannic Majesty.

At the same time, they reserve to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty the power of announcing at any time the separate denunciation of the Convention by one or several of the following Colonies or possessions, in the manner provided for by Article XX of the Convention, namely :--

India, the Dominion of Canada, Newfoundland, the Cape, Natal, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania, South Australia, and New Zealand.

2. With respect to the classification of the countries of the Union having regard to their contributory part to the expenses of the International Bureau (No. 5 of the Final Protocol) :

The Plenipotentiaries declare that their respective countries should be ranked in the following classes, namely :

Germany in the 1st class ; Belgium in the 3rd class ; Spain in the 2nd class ; France in the 1st class ; Great Britain in the 1st class ; Haiti in the 5th class ; Italy in the 1st class ; Switzerland in the 3rd class ; Tunis in the 6th class.

The Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Liberia states that the powers which he has received from his Government authorize him to sign the Convention, but that he has not received instructions to the class in which his country proposes to place itself with respect to the contribution to the expenses of the International Bureau. He therefore reserves that question to be determined by his Government, who will make known their intention on the exchange of ratifications.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present *procès-verbal*.

Done at Berne, the 9th day of September 1886.

(Signed) For Great Britain, F. O. Adams, J. H. G. Bergne ; For Germany, Otto von Bulow ; For Belgium, Maurice Delfosse ; For Spain, Almina, Villa-Amil ; For France, Emmanuel Arago ; For Haiti, Louis Joseph Janvier ; For Italy, E. Di Beccaria ; For Liberia, Kœntzer ; For Switzerland, Droz, L. Ruchonnet, A. D'Orelli ; For Tunis, L. Renault.

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,--I have read your remarks on the New Dispensation with a great deal of interest. With all that you say regarding the "Church Militant," I fully agree. But your observations on the character of the late BABU KESHUB CHUNDER SEN have pained his numerous friends and admirers. Whatever may be said against his immediate followers--and volumes may be written against them--the character of the late Minister is without blot or reproach. It may be interesting to you to know that BABU KESHUB CHUNDER SEN was the most uncompromising advocate of individual freedom in his church and that it is on the basis of the constitutional principles which he left that it has been possible for Babu Krishna Bihari Sen and the party of freedom to work so long and so vigorously. Surely if his followers refuse to carry out his golden principles, he is not to blame. My humble request to you is that however you may characterise the conduct of his disciples, you will spare the memory of our dear and beloved Minister. His biography has not yet appeared, and when it comes out all the points in his life which you allude to will be cleared.--Yours &c.,

GRATITUDE.

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT).

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

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CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1887.

No. 276

## The Week.

SCARCELY has the shock of the news of the fire which the other day demolished the Chhota Bazar at Simla subsided, when an incendiary attempt to set fire to the Burra Simla Bazar causes a fresh sensation. Fortunately the attempt was detected before it was too late. A reward has been proclaimed for the apprehension of the incendiary who it is now supposed was the cause of the other fire also. The destruction of the Burra Bazar, as the Simla writer who sends the telegram says, means the destruction of Simla, and who knows the incendiary was only trying to solve the "Exodus" problem in his own rude offhand way.

THE Port Officer has received the following reports from the Mate Pilot of the *Resolute* :—

"I have the honor to report that, whilst proceeding down in the *Resolute*, R. S. V., and steaming across towards the Ridge, when near the south channel buoy, we passed a large number of dead bodies floating in the water; one appeared to be an elderly European, and some of the rest seemed to be Native women, one of whom appeared to have a child in her arms. They were in batches of six and eight, whilst single bodies were floating all over the place. I was then put on board the ship the *Bruce*, but the Commander of the *Resolute* will be able to give a fuller report.

Another report, also to the Port Officer, from Sauger Island, dated 1st June, says :—'Eleven dead Native women washed ashore, much swollen and portions of bodies wanting.'

THE S. S. *Sir John Lawrence*.

The latest particulars as regards this vessel are that the S.S. *Resolute*, while nearing the South Channel Buoy off the Sandheads, picked up yesterday the body of an European with grey hairs, one leg missing, which was identified as the body of Captain Irving, and also the body of another European, which was identified as that of the Chief Officer of the S. S. *Sir John Lawrence*. Several bodies of Natives were seen drifting with the tide, and one Uryah was picked up with a child clinging to his arms. Mr. Mathews, a clerk on this steamer, is among those missing who were on board. A sea chest is also said to have been picked up, bearing on a brass plate the name 'P. Irving.'

SIR GANPAT RAO, President of the Regency at Gwalior, has been very liberal with his master's money. The other day, he unearthed the hidden treasures of the State to curry favour with his present masters by lending the money to the Government of India. He has now relieved the Treasury of a lac and twenty thousand rupees by transferring the amount to the Imperial Institute. The traitor!

SALAR JUNG II. is proving himself abroad a veritable Mussulman Nabob that he is. He travels *en grand* with a little army of men and women supposed to attend on him, and moves at a snail's pace and marries as he goes along. In the language of a loyal press, Sir SALAR JUNG'S stay in Egypt is likely to be prolonged, as he has formed a new matrimonial alliance there.

THE Maharajah of Durbhanga's liberality flows as a stream. He has lately sent a donation of Rs. 2,000 to the Madras Park Fire Relief Fund. His Jubilee present to the Queen is also a handsome *souvenir* executed at an expense of Rs. 15,000.

AMONG the farewell honors given to Sir WILLIAM WEDDERBURN was an evening party given at Petit Hall by Bombay's princely and popular truly High Sheriff.

THE Bhattias of Bombay lately held a meeting at which Rs. 35,000 was subscribed on the spot as the nucleus of a Fund for the support of widows, orphans and other destitute of their community. The Bombayites know how to earn wealth as well as to use it.

THE Salvation Army in India has received an accession of strength in the shape of an anonymous gift of £5,000.

BY the last mail steamer from Singapore sailed for England a number of Siamese nobles and officers to witness the Jubilee in London. These guests from the East will add not a little to the picturesqueness of the pageant.

POOR VITHAL, the son of the late BHAI DADI, the prince of the Grant graduates in medicine and an antiquarian of repute, is dead. The fact is thus noticed by our clever contemporary of the *Indian Spectator* :—

"He dies comparatively young, partly, we fear, because he never took care of his health, trusting too much to European diet."

THE Lucknow *Express* writes :—

"Kunwar Hurnam Singh Ahluwalia, C. I. E., Manager of the Kapurthala Estates in Oudh, and the Honorary Secretary of the 'Faluqdars' Association, left Lucknow on Saturday night for Calcutta *en route* to England. Kunwar Sahib is accompanied by his wife and children, and the latter will be left in England for their education. Kunwar Hurnam Singh will be in London during the Royal Jubilee celebration, and while in Europe, it is his intention to visit the principal continental capitals, including St. Petersburg. He has also sketched out a trip through Spain and Portugal, and hopes to return to India and Lucknow before Sir Alfred Lyall retires from the Lieutenant-Governorship in the cold weather."

We doubt whether the programme will be carried out to the full. A Sikh Sirdar of a princely house will think twice before he ventures at this time out to Russia, while poor Maharaja DHULLIP SINGH is starring it there.

THIS is not bad :—

"You must cultivate decision of character and learn to say 'No,'" said a father to his son. Soon afterwards when the father told his son to go to bed, the boy said 'No' with an emphasis that showed a remembrance of the lesson."

Was this the young character who interpreted scriptural justice in favor of his marrying his grand-mother in answer to his father's act?

THE *Sind Times* is justly indignant :—

"Transparent disingenuity displayed at times by even the leading Anglo-Indian journals is astonishing. An obscure Gujarati paper called the *Nyayadrushak*, published at Ahmedabad, had sued the *East Gujarati* for libel. The libel was justified before the Magistrate as it was proved that the editor of the Ahmedabad paper was guilty of all the malpractices attributed to him. The *Times of India* makes this subject the text for a homily about the Native Press, obviously meaning the Vernacular Press. What in the world has the Vernacular Press to do with a wretched rag that exists upon blackmail and abuse? It was not very long ago that an Anglo-Indian paper published at Hyderabad attempted to impose blackmail upon an officer of the Nizam. Would it be very wise to deliver a sermon to the whole Anglo-Indian Press because one black sheep had been found? The whole Press will be glad that the Ahmedabad paper has been exposed, and it would be more glad if such a paper had ceased to exist. But the insinuation of the *Times of India* that most vernacular papers do not pay their way, and resort to dishonest ways of raising the wind is a gross and wantonly libel."

THE magnificent Sivagunga Zemindary, which survived the litigation of a long series of years, has now been put to another trial for another se-

ries of years. The Zemindary comprises 1,500 square miles divided into eight tasildaree subdivisions with a population of 450,000. The revenue payable to Government is about 3 lacs. It has now been leased to Messrs. R. G. ORR and JEREMIAH RYAN, who have advanced 20 lacs of rupees to remove all incumbrances on the property. The lessees have of course agreed to improve the property. But when will it be rendered back to the owners, we are not told. British occupation has a quality of being perpetual.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* says :—

"We congratulate the *East Anglian Daily Times* upon the possession of a reporter who at a critical emergency dared, in the interest of the public, to risk arrest rather than consent to a gross infringement of the privileges of the press. An inquest was opened on Tuesday at Whitton, near Ipswich, on the body of a young lady of sixteen who had committed suicide. Local rumour attributes her death to her seduction. But Mr. A. F. Vulliamy, coroner of Suffolk, whose conduct contrasts signally with the public-spirited attitude of the coroner of Nottingham, when he had to hold an inquiry on the judge who died in the house of ill-fame, decided that he should not allow reporters to be present. Thereupon Mr. F. C. Atkinson, chief reporter of the *East Anglian Times*, refused to leave the room. He said he was there in discharge of a public duty, and he should remain there unless he was ejected by force. All his colleagues took up the same attitude. The coroner, relying upon some ruling of Lord Tenterden's, insisted upon excluding the reporters, and ultimately they were ejected by the constables. Thereupon the jurors struck, they said they would not receive the evidence unless the reporters were there, and after a long wrangle the coroner was compelled to adjourn the case till Monday. We hope jurors will stick to their guns. The coroner has made a grave mistake, and the scandal which he wished to hush up has now become notorious throughout the whole land."

THE *Lahore Tribune* announces with great pleasure that, a young man has appeared before the Committee now enquiring into the allegations as to the tampering of the University Examination papers and made disclosures of how he had purchased the whole of the First Arts questions, for what amount and from whom. The culprits are the very persons against whom public suspicion had been so long directed. Our contemporary advises other candidates in the same situation to come forward in the same way under the promises of protection and free pardon which have been offered by the Committee, as otherwise they might run the risk of being made over to the police for investigation.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Statesman*, writing from Basti, in the North Western Provinces, says that at Fyzabad a man with a decent appearance who was travelling in a third class carriage from Calcutta broke his journey, and asked the station-master to supply him with a special carriage to take him to Lucknow. The station-master had his suspicions excited in the short parley which took place, and he ordered one of the coolies to bring to him the large box with which he was travelling. The box being opened, he was surprised to behold a boy of nearly four years old with valuable gold ornaments on his person lying at the bottom of it, his mouth gagged with cotton. The man was taken into custody and the child sent to the hospital where he is improving. May not this be the boy for whom a hue and cry was the other day made by some resident in the Barrackpore Sub-Division? The parentage of the child will no doubt be soon ascertained.

We take from an English paper :—

"*Thomas Le Key*, 60, pleaded guilty to three charges of obtaining money by false pretences from the Commissioners of Customs.—Mr. McConeil appeared on behalf of the prosecution, and Mr. Purcell for the defendant.—The facts of the case were of a somewhat peculiar character. The father of the prisoner named Robert Lekey, had been in the employ of the Commissioners of Customs, but he was superannuated in 1815 upon a pension of 40*l.* a year, payable at the rate of 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per month. Robert Lekey died in 1852, and the case against the prisoner was that he and his sister Mary Ann Lekey, who was included in the charge, but against whom no evidence was offered by the prosecution, was that the two had continued receiving the pension down to the month of March last, a period of thirty-five years, the male prisoner representing that he was the real Robert Lekey, who was entitled to the pension, and the money being actually received by the sister. Robert Lekey, the father, was sixty years of age when he was superannuated and thus at the time the last monthly payment was received the annuitant would have been something like 110 years of age.—Mr. Purcell urged in mitigation of punishment, that the prisoner Thomas Lekey was in a very humble position, and it appeared that the mother of the prisoners had received the pension for twelve years after the father's death, and on her deathbed she told the female prisoner that she was entitled to the pension. He at the same time expressed a hope that one result of the prosecution would be that the Commissioners of Customs would look a little more carefully after their annuitants, and not

pay a man's annuity thirty-five years after his death.—The jury then returned a verdict of Not Guilty in the case of the sister, and the brother was sentenced to three months' imprisonment."

That beats poor Indian villainy hollow. There is no record in India of a case in which pension was drawn continuously by the family 35 years after the death of the annuitant. The drawers also would not have been so leniently dealt with. The other day Mr. REILLY sentenced a person to 18 months' labor, under several sections of the Penal Code, for receiving only Rs. 2-10-6 by personating.

MR. O. GHILARDI, Principal of the Calcutta School of Arts, informs the public, through the medium of the press, that there are two classes opened in the school for teaching metal chasing or metal repoussé, and wood carving to which students are admitted free of any charge. They are in the beginning taught free hand drawing and modelling which must be very useful acquisitions, apart from their training in those technical branches. A course of 3 or 4 years' training is necessary to complete the training by which the students will be enabled to earn more than what remunerates an ordinary graduate of the university besides an independent livelihood.

THE Collector of Income-tax at Madras having called on the editor of a local paper for the names of contributors to the paper together with the remuneration paid to them, and the editor having declined to furnish the information, the matter was referred to the Board of Revenue and afterwards to the Government. Both the Board and the Government have held that the editor is not bound to assist the Collector in the discharge of the duty for which he is paid.

SOME Bengali Babus stationed at Moulton were the other day very roughly handled by a number of Sepoys of the 25th Punjab Native Infantry. The Babus were giving a performance of the "Battle of Plassey" to which they had invited some of the native cavalry and infantry officers of the station. A number of Sepoys came with heavy sticks, and on being admitted, misbehaved themselves so much that a few of them had to be made to leave the place. Offended at this, they formed up outside the door and began to beat the Babus with their sticks. They struck right and left, assaulting every one who came near them. A few Europeans who sat near the door received some severe blows, and for the time, quite a panic prevailed. The ring-leaders have been arrested and will be soon put on their trial. The correspondent who reports the occurrence to the *Civil and Military Gazette* gives great credit to Mr. VAUGHAN, Inspector of Railway Police, for the tact and coolness displayed by him in dealing with the infuriated soldiers and afterwards capturing their leaders.

THE *Statesman* has received information from Mymensing of an unusually successful *shikar* party headed by Babu AMRITANARAYAN ACHARJEE Chowdhuri of Muktagacha having in one week bagged five royal tiger, seven wild boar and twenty deer. Our contemporary's correspondent justly complains of the wrong done by the Arms Act to the cultivating classes in exposing them to the depredations of wild animals when they might easily make their security by the use of arms which they know so well to handle.

THE schism in the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce has been happily made up by the return, apparently under the influence of the Secretary, Mr. CLARKE, of the firms which had seceded and kept aloof from it for several years owing to some differences. The seceding firms were those of Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot and Co., Messrs. Gladstone, Willie and Co., Messrs. Lyall, Reunie and Co., and Messrs. Peel, Jacob and Co. These are some of the oldest and most respectable houses in Calcutta. The mercantile community in Calcutta have of late shown considerable political activity. We have seen that the European and Eurasian Defence Association has been placed on a permanent footing, although in the presence of the Chamber which has always taken interest and intervened in political matters, some may regard a separate organization of the kind as a superfluity. We have no reason, however, to complain so long as the political activity of each community is judiciously and honorably directed to further its own legitimate interests without importing unnecessary bitterness or displaying a too exclusive and unfair spirit in discussing the claims of other parties. Conducted on just and even somewhat generous principles, there is scope for all. And there are several questions

in which these Associations, representing the different classes of the body politic, can speak with one voice. At the last annual meeting, for instance, of the Chamber of Commerce, its President, Mr. TURNER, gave expression to the views of the European mercantile community on several political and administrative questions with which the organs of native opinion have the greatest sympathy. In such matters, for instance, as the excessive cost of litigation in this country; the necessity of a reform in our Bankruptcy Law; the importance of remodelling the representation of the various interests in our municipal boards so as to be equally fair to all; the improvement of the silk industry, and other topics on which he spoke with great ability, the views of an influential body like the Chamber are in full harmony with our own. It is only to be regretted that it should have gone out of its way to take up such an attitude as it has done on the question of the recruitment for the Public Service. Its interests in economical administration in general must be identical with the interests of all non-official classes, and such administration can only be secured by a larger employment of the indigenous agency.

IN the course of his speech at the annual meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Mr. TURNER made an important suggestion on the subject of the Hooghly Bridge. He said :—

"I have no wish to decry the existing bridge. It has done its work well so far. It has proved its usefulness and the need for a roadway connecting Calcutta and Howrah, but it is certainly showing signs of wear, and should a serious accident happen, when its material has so far decayed as to make such accident fatal to its existence, it is evident that a permanent structure would be insisted upon. But the wisdom of waiting for such a catastrophe is to be questioned. Far better at once to commence a new bridge, while we have the convenience of the existing one, so that there shall be no break in the communications, and while we can raise a part of its cost by tolls upon goods and passengers which actually make use of the convenience the existing bridge affords."

THE Madras High Court has at length tardily recognised the claims of the native bar to a portion of the "loaves and fishes," by appointing Mr. N. SUBRAMANIA, who some years ago acted as Coroner but was not confirmed in the permanent office, to the Official Trusteeship.

THE Crown Prince of Germany is still suffering from the affection of the throat and his condition is causing considerable anxiety.

WE read with great pleasure that

"Madras is the only place in all India which includes amongst its local industries a cement work. It is again the only part of India in which there are coffee works, of which there are twenty-one. In other matters, too, the Southern Presidency is to the fore. For instance, of the whole ten tile-manufactories in all India no fewer than eight are in that Presidency, and of the remaining two, one is in Coorg and the other in the Hyderabad territory, while of the forty tanneries returned for all India, no fewer than twenty belong to Madras, which also has three rope-works out of the five in India."

The so-called Benighted is quietly stealing a march on the other Provinces.

THE ministerial crisis at Paris has been apparently averted by M. ROUVIER forming a Moderate Republican Cabinet with General SAUSSIER as Minister for War and M. FLOURENS as Foreign Minister. There were counter-demonstrations made in behalf of General BOULANGER, but the promptness of the police and military arrangements prevented an outbreak.

THE *Muslim Herald* has given up the *Foca* and the *Osool* for Hindu theology and English literature. We don't care, if its constituents do not embowel it for such a preference. It now writes essays on subjects of literary interest and takes the name of British classics. The lucubrations in taste are not conceived in much taste and the names are usually taken in vain. Thus, the *Critic* is called a Comedy.—But we are warned by the *Lahore Tribune* as follows :—

"Our highly esteemed contemporary of *Reis and Rayyet* has given great importance to that Madras rag of the *Muslim Herald* by condescending even to chastise it. There are people who do not deserve even the honour of ridicule from respectable men. We made the same mistake some time ago, when from purely charitable motives we attempted to put some sense into the *Herald's* head-piece. But *Reis and Rayyet's* has been a more inexcusable mistake. The *Tribune* is a veritable child in journalistic experience and ability before the venerable and veteran editor of the best-written journal in India. What is excusable in us is not necessarily excusable in *Reis and Rayyet*. We would,

therefore, request our venerable contemporary not to notice in future what bilious nonsense may appear in the columns of rags like the *Muslim Herald*."

IN their evidence before the Sub-Committee of the Public Service Commission, European witnesses strained every nerve to discredit the employment of natives in posts requiring endurance, coolness and pluck in the discharge of the duties thereof. Most of such deponents, however, were interested parties, and the animus which they showed in their testimonies against native character must have diminished the value of their statements in impartial eyes. Our detractors, however, were indefatigable, and let slip no opportunity of doing damage to the cause of native employment. When the *Tasmania* went down, a howl was raised against the native lascars, as if the fatal accident were alone due to their cowardice and undiscipline. The calumnies have, however, been authoritatively refuted. The Captain of the vessel has given them good character, and now we receive a telegraphic report from London of a meeting of the P. and O. Company, at which Mr. THOMAS SUTHERLAND, the Chairman, defended the employment of lascars as seamen in the Company's steamers on the ground that they were generally as efficient as, and better behaved than, Europeans.

ANOTHER casualty on high sea is reported. A German steamer, *Oder*, homeward bound from China, struck on a rock off Socotra and became a complete wreck. The passengers and crew have been saved, with the exception of four crew believed to have perished.

THERE has been a storm of hail and rain at Simla, which began on the night of the 2nd and was blowing the next day till the time of despatch of the telegram.

AT the celebration of the Jubilee at Dublin her Majesty will be represented by Prince ALBERT VICTOR of Wales.

THE Russians have occupied Kerki.

## Editorial Notes.

THE latest Afghan news reports that no fighting has occurred. But there is no reliance to be placed on such news as finds its way to the Indian press regarding Cabul. It would seem that constant communication is going on between the Viceroy and the Secretary of State on the affairs of the Amir, of which the public have scarcely any inkling. In the meantime, the Boundary Commission has collapsed. The English Foreign Office is indeed never despondent when speaking of this unfortunate business, and still persists in giving assurances that the differences which have arisen with the Court of St. Petersburg will be no obstacle to the negotiations being resumed with effect. Notwithstanding all such assurances, the Boundary Commission must be regarded as a failure. It has entailed a sad waste of money, and of life too, besides compromising the prestige of the British on more than one occasion. For a set-off against all this on the debit side, we have little more than a few volumes of geographical description of the tract surveyed by the party.

UNEASY lies the head that wears a crown—in Corea. The insignia of royalty have for him become but the trappings and suits of woe. It is all vanity of vanities. He has had enough of it. And he prays to the Lord Paramount of Eastern Asia to be relieved. If His Majesty of Corea is sick of the world, it is worthy of his faith in which absolute death is the *Summum bonum*. Since the Great Renunciation of the Founder, abdication has been a common incident in Buddhist political history. But state expediency rather than religious aspiration seems to be at the bottom of the present move. The ruler of Corea is not yet prepared to enroll himself among Dr. DORAN'S Monarchs Retired from Business. He would probably have retained his throne if he could do so with advantage; but the dangers within and the enemies without have filled him with affright and done him to despair. He is willing still to serve his country at the head of its administration, but he would resign his own right to rule to derive his authority from a patent—a delegation. Thus he has asked China to incorporate Corea as a province of the Celestial Empire. He offers to serve as a Viceroy.



THE Committee of the Imperial Institute have, with the approval of the Prince of Wales, drawn up a scheme of management by which it will be placed under a body so many as a full hundred strong, being made up of 45 members for Great Britain, thirty for the Colonies, fifteen for India, and ten being nominated by her Majesty. A numerous committee is always a device for floating an unpopular enterprise, and we will have no cause to complain of its success, so long as funds for the institution are no further wrung out from this country under official pressure. The Imperial Institute may add to the grandeur of Great Britain and may be an institution of advanced usefulness in keeping with the general advancement of that country. But India is far too backward to reap its fruits. The Jubilee has called forth the most loyal demonstrations in this country and money has been poured forth in the enthusiasm of the occasion. The Indian celebration of the Jubilee has cost our Chiefs and Nobles no small sums, and now they must again send costly presents to the Queen at the English celebration of the event. Nor is this all. Not a man of note, but has had a number of calls made upon him on account of the Jubilee. There are in the first place purely local objects confined to the needs of the town or village wherein he is resident. Then there are calls from the district and sub-district authorities. Next in order come what for brevity may be described calls Divisional and calls Provincial. These do not, however, exhaust the whole round of claims made on your purse. The auspicious occasion is availed of by promoters of numerous other Funds, already in existence or newly floated, and each is commended with all the winning eloquence natural to the occasion, and all the influence of official patrons. The multiplicity of these demands were enough, one should think, to entitle Indian notabilities to relief from further embarrassments. But India is only an appanage of the English Empire, and must she not take part in the English Jubilee and assist towards some permanent English memorials of the event? We have thus the spectacle of Native Princes vying with each other in a fresh course of enthusiastic demonstrations of loyalty. They are hurrying off to be present in England at the English celebration—Princes whose forefathers never dreamt of crossing the boundaries of their States except perhaps on a pilgrimage in old age. The Institute will no doubt receive handsome endowments from these august visitors which of course means to India so much power of helping local institutions diverted.

THERE was an imposing ceremony held at Baroda in the presence of his Highness the Gaikwar. The occasion was the laying the foundation of the new market of his Highness's capital. The ceremony had been, said his Highness, reserved for celebration on the eve of his departure for Europe. From the accounts of the structure published in the papers, the market will be quite after European style, and in perfect keeping with the most approved European taste. The ceremony was also performed in tiptop English style, only the task of laying the stone was devolved on Colonel BERKELEY, instead of his Highness handling the trowel himself. There were of course speeches, followed by a banquet, and not the most fastidious critic could say that Oriental forms and fashions had not been altogether banished from the proceedings. The Anglicization of our native chiefs has set in irresistably, and the Jubilee will be no mean instrument of hastening the process.

ONE notable incident of the ceremony was the offer, made by the citizens of Baroda and accepted by his Highness, of subscriptions to the extent of Rs. 20,000 for a marble statue of his Highness's late Rani to be placed on a prominent site near the market which is to be named after her. The exposure of a female even in stone is regarded by a contemporary as an invasion of the *Purda*.

WHAT occult connection there may be between law and music we cannot divine. It is in itself a fine art even to the extent of finesse, but hardly a Gay science. It may be a "business of pleasure," but only to the profession; much as criticism is ranked among the Belles Lettres. For, the victims of law are not particularly struck by its funny side, any more than the victims of criticism recognise the goodness and nobleness of literary censor's occupation. The affinity or alliance between law and music is still less perceptible. But if the Police reports are to be believed, there must be some point of contact, some principle in unison, between them. Our Bengal High Court at

any rate seems to be a very musical establishment. Just as learned men in their "enthusiasm humanity" do not mind "conveying" (as their brethren the wise call it) books, so the members (albeit subordinate ones) of the staff of the House of Judicature in their passion for music do not scruple to stretch a point beyond the law itself. About two weeks ago, before the bench of Honorary Magistrates presided over by a barrister and an advocate of the High Court, Mr. N. N. GHOSE, Inspector BELL related how one of the head messengers of the High Court had loved music not wisely perhaps but too well. This musical messenger is a worthy member of a court of law. He is a true man of business of pleasure. He had lucid intervals deliciously sandwiching his day's dull musty routine. After performance during the heat and dust of the day of his cheer and harsher duties in connection with the administration of the Highest Judicature among Her Majesty's lieges in Bengal, he unbent himself in the evening, giving his soul up to the charms of song and music and the blandishments of the hour up to the small hours of the livelong night. Nor was this all. Indeed, this was far from exhausting the versatility of this precious lower extremity of the law. This was his mode of spending the moonlit nights. And his taste must be pronounced irreproachable. This dilettante of the High Court was too *spirituelle* a being to waste his sweetness on the nights on which the luminary of the heavens shone not. He had a remarkable sense of the fitness of things. He knows what is due to what—knows the hour and its proper pursuit. Accordingly, he varied his moonlight serenading with midnight adventures of a darker, perchance a dangerous, kind, in the dark nights. But as the Indian proverb hath it, for five days of the knights of industry there is one day for the innocent victims. Notwithstanding his musico-legal reputation, he was discovered and brought up for house-breaking and sentenced to hard labour. In connection with the investigation his own house was broken into by the law itself. And then the extent of his operations was disclosed to an amazed world. Let us quote the Police report:—

"When his house was being searched several articles were found in his possession for which no less than 14 different cases are being enquired into; that among the articles found there were one *sitar* and one *sarengi*, the ownership of which was traced to Ghamandee Koormi, another jemadar of the High Court."

What a disclosure, to be sure! How many-sided is the revelation! For one thing, what a band of musicians are these myrmidons of Her Majesty's High Court, with their penchant for the possession of such high-class Oriental musical instruments as the *sitar* and the *sarengi*, at any price, or rather no price! It may be difficult for the people of the country to believe that these underlings never got encouragement in some shape or other, for their music at least, if not in their marauding. Courts of law are not necessarily courts of justice. Perhaps some will affect not be surprised to learn that a great court is a great den of thieves. But who will not wonder to hear of a court being turned into an academy of music!

Perhaps some of our courts may consider it an advantage to have a double-stringed bow. Failing to secure public confidence by the exercise of law and justice, they may assert their usefulness as an organ of music of some sort or an unfailing exciter of mirth.

It is reported that a young Baboo in the Darjeeling Post Office has been arrested with some 300 letters and numerous currency notes in his possession. From the open manner in which he is said to have carried on this business, we much suspect he may be only like the jackal, the lion's provider. With all the undisputed success of the Indian Postal Department, its morality, at least in respect of some of its Departments, has never been above suspicion. It is a matter of common report that in this, as in the Registration Department the Head Assistant of which has lately come to grief, the exercise of patronage is not aboveboard. The more respectable of the upper subordinate offices are as a rule monopolized by Eurasians or by the relations of the higher authorities, and these wield all the patronage according to a system the very worst calculated to maintain discipline and honesty in the Subordinate Staff. Notwithstanding this, the integrity of the postmasters and sub-postmasters as a class has been irreproachable, and extorted the commendation of Government year after year. We regard this fact as something highly extraordinary, and the discovery of a solitary black sheep here and there scarcely affects the general character of the inferior postal agency. The Government has, however, so far not gone beyond words in showing its appreciation of the honesty of these hard-worked and

meanly paid servants. This is the more surprising as it has increased their responsibilities with every new development of the Department. Between the Money-Order system, the postal Savings Banks, and lastly the telegraphic business, these poor fellows have at once too much work thrown on their shoulders and too much temptation thrown in their way. It is but fair that the scale of pay should be modified in accordance with the scale of their work.

A MOST painful case of official tyranny is going the round of the press. A well-to-do native of Mandla, in the Central Provinces, named Luchmi Persad, by profession an Excise contractor, had, it appears, fallen into the bad graces of the head of his department—probably because he had failed to make sufficient sacrifices at the shrines of its gods. From this it was an easy descent into the illwill of the local police—which too he had not conciliated enough, in the usual way. After that, the man was bound to lose the magistrate, whose eyes and ears were his subordinates and the Police. In December 1883, some native troops were on their way to Raipore through the town of Mandla, when the district officer issued a *verbal* order to the contractor through a Mahomedan head-constable not to sell any liquor to the troops. This was no communication at all, but such is the abject terror from the protectors in which Her Majesty's subjects live that poor LUCHMI PERSAD did as the Mahomedan myrmidon of an inscrutable Government bid. Notwithstanding that trembling compliance, the head-constable reported that liquor had been sold to the Sepoys through a private window. This was just the excuse wanted, and at night the police broke open his house, severely beat LUCHMI PERSAD and at last marched him through the main road in handcuffs and chains like a common felon. The case came up in due course before the District Officer, who was bound to accept the testimony of his police, and without any independent enquiry, poor LUCHMI PERSAD was sentenced to two days' simple imprisonment. To save himself from confinement in jail, the victim of official highhandedness offered to pay a fine of Rs. 2,000, but the Deputy Commissioner was inexorable. LUCHMI PERSAD was sent to jail, and his shop was closed for four days. Woe upon woe! he found the very Extra Assistant Commissioner in charge of the Excise, who had caused him to be prosecuted, was in temporary charge of the jail. It was but a matter of course that this officer should now complete the full measure of his vengeance by having LUCHMI PERSAD shaved and subjected to all manner of indignities. On an appeal, the Judicial Commissioner set aside the Deputy Commissioner's conviction as illegal. LUCHMI PERSAD claimed the sum of Rs. 680 for losses caused by the illegal closing of his shop for four days, but the excise commissioner recommended that a compensation of Rs. 50 be paid, which being declined, and the whole matter laid before the Chief Commissioner, the Chief Commissioner, as usual, saw no reason to interfere, except that the compensation should be increased to Rs. 100. Meeting with no justice in his own Province, LUCHMI PERSAD preferred an appeal to the Government of India, which has addressed the Chief Commissioner on the subject as follows:—

"From the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 4686/269, dated the 14th ultimo, submitting the correspondence connected with the case of Lachmi Pershad Kulwar of Mandla district, who was illegally sentenced by the Deputy Commissioner, Mandla, to two days' simple imprisonment, and after sentence, was subjected to indignities by the police and jail officials. A perusal of the correspondence creates a strong impression that Lachmi Pershad was made the victim of a malicious outrage, perpetrated in the name of the law, and his Excellency in Council greatly regrets to find that owing to circumstances which are far from satisfactorily explained punishment has not overtaken the offenders. On the whole the case is discreditable to all concerned, and has left a very painful impression on the mind of his Excellency the Governor-General in Council."

What! Is this sufficient reparation to the injured man? The officers of Government are apparently sacred, and no punishment can overtake them for any offences beyond a Secretariat paragraph expressive of displeasure. The Extra Assistant Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner stand as well with the Local Government as if the Government of India had never condemned them. Indeed the one has been promoted and the other transferred to a better district! After this, what can be our feelings as regards the administration of justice or towards the British Government? For one such case which sees the light, there are hundreds which never come to public notice. How vain are "honors" conferred by a foreign government! This LUCHMI PERSAD had received marks of approval and certificate

of honor from the Local Government and successive Deputy Commissioners for acts of liberality and public spirit. The very highest position scarcely secures one from the tyranny of a common police officer.

THE *Indian Daily News* says that Sir COMEY PETHERAM has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University. This is as it should be, of course, although the good Chief has not yet made a considerable speech, nor delivered an elaborate judgment. Is not the world made for Cæsar? As for the poor Fellow RAJENDRALALA MITRA—who, by long years of work in education as well as by published writings esteemed throughout the globe, has the highest established claim to the post of honor—he can well afford to pine in unmerited disappointment. When the end comes at last, which may God in His mercy postpone indefinitely, we may have the Lieutenant-Governor—or the Viceroy himself for that matter—to preside at the meeting to raise a statue to his memory—thereby furnishing another clinching proof of the liberality of British Rule and of the generosity of British gentlemen placed in high authority.

*Young Bengal*, a Calcutta weekly, is naturally glad at the election of Baboo TARUCK CHANDRA SIRCAR, of Messrs. KERR, TARUCK and Co., as a member of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce. The firm is one of the oldest in Calcutta, as well as very respectable, and it is but fair that it should be represented in the Chamber. The proof of fairness would have been above suspicion had the Baboo been invited before the founding of a Native Chamber.

THE Gaekwar of Baroda left Bombay for England by the last steamer. The Maharani Saheba with her six ladies-in-waiting, accompanies. His Highness's uncle BAPPOO SAHEB is also one of the party.

Orthodoxy will be conciliated by the announcement that the family priest also accompanies. We dare say the "Josses" have not been forgotten.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1887.

### THE CENTENARY OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

FRANCE has decided to celebrate the centenary of her Great Revolution, with a magnificence and an *éclat* befitting the wealth of the nation and the grandeur of the event. On the occasion of the great national *fête*, it is proposed to open in Paris an international exhibition which should group all the products of the globe under the banner of the Republic. The European Powers have been invited to cooperate with the French to ensure the success of the gigantic undertaking. It would seem that the invitation of France has been but coldly received. Some of the Powers are said to have already expressed their unwillingness to take part in the world's fair. Germany has refused to participate in it. Russia will not join because France has not accepted her recommendation to put off the projected exhibition to 1890. England has followed suit. As to Austria, she has not only declined the invitation but also given her sister a bit of her mind. One of the Vienna journals writes—"The real object of certain politicians is to prove not only that France always marches at the head of civilization but also to show that republic is the form of Government which the future reserves for the nations of the earth. It is the height of *naïveté* on the part of France to invite the old monarchies to take part in such a *fête* and to ask them to associate with her for the glorification of the Revolution." Whether the other Powers of Europe will cordially respond to the invitation of France is yet to be seen. Thus the Exhibition of 1889, which the French have intended to make the grandest, runs the risk of becoming not more than a mere national Exhibition.

It is not difficult to discover the reason why the leading European Powers have refused to take part in

the proposed Exhibition of Paris. The France of today is not the France under LOUIS XIV or NAPOLEON III. Owing to her reverses in the late Franco-German War, and the humiliating terms on which she obtained peace, she has lost her ascendancy in Europe. Paris is no longer the centre of political movement. The day is gone by when the ruler of the French was practically the standing arbiter among the nations in both Hemispheres. The language of VOLTAIRE and ROUSSEAU, of MOLIERE and RACINE, of BOSSUET and FENELON has now found powerful rivals in the languages of England and Germany, polished and enriched since by the genius and taste, the erudition and research of generations of poets and prosists and men of science. Indeed, Arts and Sciences have found at least equal, if not better, temples and equally, if not more, devoted votaries in other lands and among other peoples.

Men may pity fallen greatness, they seldom pay court to it!

The French Revolution of 1789 is one of the grandest events in the affairs of men. It was the rising of human nature against the tyranny of ages. It was the assertion of the supremacy of reason over brute force. It was the destroyer of the institutions and traditions of the Middle Ages. It first formally sounded in mortal ears the charm which has fascinated the world, which has not only upturned thrones and undermined Governments, but made Order itself difficult—we refer to the brotherhood of the words *Liberté, Egalité, and Fraternité*. What with flash begins, usually ends in smoke. But the smoke in this case was prodigiously powerful and suffocating, to friend and foe alike. At length, the Movement committed suicide by intemperance. Its greatest man took advantage of its discredit from its excesses to raise on its ruins a stern absolutism. France submitted to it as a necessary evil, and the author tried his best to make his countrymen forget their shame in the national glory of the humiliation he inflicted on the rest of the Continent. It was an arduous struggle, but he was equal to it. He took advantage of the general renaissance and the new self-consciousness of the races, to form the Celtic nations into a confederacy with France at their head. That was a grand idea, and, but for the 'crowned Representative' of the Revolution himself, it stood a good chance of success. Blinded by his egotism, NAPOLEON would not carry it out in all its integrity. His love of power and dynastic exaltation hurried him into undertakings which scarcely left him time to mature a plan for giving it effect. What NAPOLEON failed to achieve, has, for the moment, been brought about by the genius of BISMARCK. The great German has succeeded in creating a Teutonic confederacy which has not only avenged the French ravages of the past, but has inflicted a lasting humiliation on France, by dismembering her of some of her best provinces and by proclaiming WILLIAM Emperor of Germany from the very palace of LOUIS XIV.

It is no wonder that the "old monarchies" of Europe should keep themselves aloof from the celebration of such a Revolution. Had not these "old monarchies" leagued together to put down this Revolution when it made its first appearance to the bewilderment of all Europe? Had not the soldiers of this Revolution scattered their armies, sacked their cities and reduced their power? Had not the *drapeau tricolore* been hoisted in almost all the European capitals? There is at least one sovereign now living in Europe who remembers

vividly the humiliation which this Revolution had brought on his house and kingdom as well as on the Hapsburgs and the Austrian Empire. "The French Revolution alarmed all the German princes, who leagued together against it, but like a terrible storm it swept them away and those who remained bowed low before its crowned Representative." With such *souvenirs*, the Powers cannot take part in a ceremony the avowed object of which is to glorify the Revolution which brought humiliation on them. Whatever the French people may say and do with reference to the refusal of the Great Powers, these are, it must be confessed, justified in their action, for they cannot accept the invitation without stultifying themselves in the eyes of the world. They may regard even the invitation to join in an exhibition synchronous with the celebration of the Centenary as almost a trickery to make a cat's paw of them.

#### LORD REAY'S EDUCATIONAL POLICY.

MUCH misunderstanding has prevailed in Bombay regarding Lord REAY's educational policy. His Lordship's high reputation for culture and for practical experience of the educational problems of the day had preceded him to this country, and given rise to great hopes that education in Bombay would receive a new impetus during his Lordship's incumbency. Nor has his interest in matters educational ever flagged. The subject of education has, since his assumption of the Government, occupied a large share of Lord REAY's attention, and not a few of his public utterances have testified the earnestness with which he habitually regards this question. Nevertheless has his Lordship been an object of misunderstanding. An impression has gone abroad, that he meditated an advance in the direction of technical education by restricting the expenditure on the Arts Colleges. Probably his too emphatic adhesion to the cause of technical education gave rise to the impression. Not that the importance of a departure in this direction is undervalued by the people themselves. The need of technical education is fully realized, and of this no more convincing proof could be afforded than the response, such as it is, which has been given to the appeal for subscriptions towards a Technical College as a permanent memorial of the Jubilee. If, nevertheless, Lord REAY's utterances on the subject of technical education have provoked hostile criticism, and created an alarm, it must be set down to the nervousness of the people on the subject of their higher education. It must be owing to those utterances of his Lordship being accompanied by expressions of his desire to devolve upon private enterprise a part of the responsibility hitherto borne by the state in regard to the higher education. Remembering how keenly sensitive the people of this country are in the matter of high education, and how apt they are to resent the appearance of any hostility in that direction, the misconception which has arisen in regard to Lord REAY will not be wondered at.

His Lordship has now had an opportunity of explaining the position of his Government on the subject. That position is no other than the position assumed by the Government of India with respect to high education, *viz.*, that the burden of it should be gradually devolved upon the people, as the people are found capable of sustaining the responsibility, and always provided that the transfer is not attended with any detriment to the efficiency of instruction. This has been the principle professed by Government,

with more or less distinctness from the very beginning, while it has been placed on a more certain foundation since the appearance of Lord Ripon's Resolution on the report of the Education Commission. Carried out in its integrity and with due regard to the condition that the Government should never seek to be relieved of the maintenance of any Arts College before it can be safely made over to any private agency, the soundness of the principle is above question. If it nevertheless meets with opposition from the people, that is owing to their fear that the principle may be brought into effect too prematurely or with too little regard for the strength of private enterprise amongst any local community. Lord REAY has, however, shown his practical appreciation of the delicacy of the experiment as well as his interest in higher education in a way which can admit of no mistake. In his speech at the Sattara Durbar and in his subsequent Resolution on the subject of the amalgamation of the Deccan College and the Fergusson Institution, his views are set forth with such noble candour, and the circumstances which have led his Lordship after anxious consideration to make over the charge of the amalgamated College to the Deccan Education Society are explained with such clearness and closeness of reasoning as to allay any doubts that may have been aroused at the very name of Government reducing its expenditure on the Arts Colleges. The necessity of such reduction is further imposed by the exceptional financial difficulties of the time as well as by the responsibility which Lord REAY's Government has boldly assumed of doing something in the direction of technical education. What has been done in Bombay with respect to higher education is only by way of giving effect to the policy laid down by the Education Commission. The step has expressly been taken as an experiment, and the right of resumption has been judiciously reserved whenever the Government is not satisfied with the management. The same policy has recently been carried into effect in Bengal with regard to two Colleges, although we cannot congratulate the Government of this province that it has approached the matter in any thing like the spirit and liberality of Lord REAY.

### THE EGYPTIAN CONVENTION.

SIR DRUMMOND WOLFF has finally come to terms with the Sultan. The result is of a piece with the last chapter of the story of the African Prince—a conclusion in which nothing is concluded. The Egyptian Convention has been signed, but its practical effect on the British evacuation is problematical. All the more reason for its going down with the British public, in whose eyes Sir DRUMMOND WOLFF's tedious and not inexpensive mission is, at length, justified! It is stipulated that the British will complete their arrangements for leaving Egypt in three years, provided the step can then be taken without danger. Otherwise, the occupation will be prolonged. The stipulations for the neutralization of the Suez Canal are more definite. The Porte and England have recognized the neutrality with right of passage through the Canal in times of peace and war. This is satisfactory enough to the other Powers. As for England, her pre-eminence in the Egyptian half-way-house will depend, as before, on her supremacy at sea. She must now more than ever be prepared, in time of war, to intercept the enemy's vessels on the way in the Mediterranean or the Red Sea. To meet this and other requirements in the future—specially, in view of the present rate of development of the fighting capacities of the different Powers—it might be expedient to make arrangements for building war vessels of all kinds in India at an increase of the present expenditure which frightens us to think of. Against this, there is a balancing consideration. The importance of the Suez Canal is a daily diminishing quantity. In the present progress of naval architecture and navigation, with the development of steam and the discovery of newer motive powers, with, last not least,

the opening of new routes by land and water, the monopoly of even the great highway of Egypt, situated as it is at the junction of all three Continents of the Old World, is not quite the advantage that it looks or has been. The Pacific Railway, though a potent factor in the military resources of the United States, may be forbidden to the rest of the world. But the Canadian route over land is British, and its utilisation as a highway between the two hemispheres under the terms proposed by the new Company, will be a distinct addition to British power. With vessels of speed specially built for conversion within a few hours to war vessels by taking in guns and ammunition and other requisites kept in fortified harbours at the Atlantic and Pacific termini, England might on easy terms have the command of both the Oceans washing the borders of America. Nor are other nations inattentive to the demands of the times. Russia is opening ports and harbours on her Asiatic shores. The restlessness of France, which has a rising Eastern empire in Indo-China, is almost abnormal. Even the smaller Powers have caught the example. Italy is involved with Abyssinia, and Portugal with Morocco, and are of course arming and increasing their navies. They will follow the lead of some Great Power and might give as efficient service as the poor wood-pecker gave to Rama in his expedition across the sea to Ceylon. Perhaps, the author of the Suez Canal is its greatest foe, in this connection. Its importance as the world's highway of peace is safe, because its situation is without parallel and is above competition. FERDINAND LESSEPS himself, much as he can do to change the geography of the Globe, has, after all, not the making of the world or the substantial redistribution of continents in his hands. The inter-continental commerce of our hemisphere, therefore, must pass through Egypt. For the mutual commerce of the Old and New Worlds, however, he is creating as it were another sea-way through the Americas, which will be welcome to nations at war.

After all, parchment is but paper, whatever may be written upon it, and however solemnly it may be signed, sealed and delivered. These treaties and compacts have no power of maintaining themselves. Things of sufferance, they are respectable enough in fair weather. In times of danger, they discover their native worthlessness. The Power that can keep its enemy out of the Suez Canal will not, we are afraid, scruple to do so. Neither that which bombarded Alexandria and seized the Danish fleet, against all international law, nor that which, when France was engaged with Germany in a life and death struggle, broke the Treaty of Paris.

### THE RAILWAY MIRACLE IN OUDH.

THE accident on the Lucknow-Sitapore Railway which we noticed at the time seems to have been an interesting and even amusing affair. The Lucknow *Express* of the 21st describes it as follows:—

"The mixed train from Sitapore to Lucknow, consisting of some eight or ten goods waggons and thirteen passenger carriages, left Bakshi-ka-Talab in a gently blowing gale. The violence of the gale increased rapidly until it developed the intensity of a perfect cyclone. It caught up the thirteen passenger carriages in its vortex, as it were, about half-way between the station of Bakshi-ka-Talab and Itaunja, and lifted them bodily off the rails, literally heaving them into the adjoining fields and strewing them about like so many match-boxes. The accident, beyond arousing a certain amount of curiosity in the minds of the passengers at the novelty of their position, excited no other feeling. As soon, in fact, as they were satisfied that they were not likely to be moving again for some time, they returned to their carriages and proceeded to make themselves comfortable for the night. They were subsequently taken on by a relief train. The thirteen carriages contained considerably over 200 passengers, and yet, notwithstanding the severity and suddenness of the shock, not a man was killed, nor a bone broken. Meanwhile the engine driver had proceeded on his way with his remaining goods vehicles, and was perfectly innocent of anything having occurred until he reached Itaunja; where he soon saw for himself that he had left all his passenger vehicles behind him."

Surely, truth is strange—stranger than fiction! If anything like this account had come to us through an American channel, we should all have smiled at the invention of "Cousin Jonathan." This accident was, after all, a jolly business. If it could be repeated under similar conditions and with no worse result, a man might make his fortune by taking out a patent. The larger number of the people, who, as an escape from ennui, risk their necks in Alpine or balloon ascents or join Polar voyages or African discovery parties, would be tempted to seek the excitement of a railway journey in which their cars were lifted up high in the air by a sportive storm and scattered about in level green fields, without the riders incurring the slightest displacement of

their anatomical structures, to be gently picked up after a time and carried again by the same rail to their proper destinations! Surely, these passengers on the Oudh railway must bear not only charmed lives but India-rubber limbs. In fact, everything about the accident is phenomenal. It does not appear that there was any difficulty in replacing the strewn carriages on the line, or else it would have been mentioned.

We ourselves were a traveller from Moorshedabad in the mail train of the E. I. Railway on the day of the Great Cyclone of 1864. From Nulhati to Burdwan it was a most exciting trip, and, though the storm had subsided, the way was not without danger below—a passenger in the same compartment with us being swept down and in all probability killed by the smashing of the door at which he stood by a tree which had been uprooted and thrown from a distance on the line—while the night scene at the Howrah terminus, crowded with passengers and homeless refugees from the neighbourhood, and naked sailors, bruised and bleeding, escaped from the shipping, of which the Hoogly had been all cleared, baffles description. It was a beautiful calm night with the early October moon shining full on a scene of desolation. The river was a sheet of silver—not a breath of wind or a dip of an oar to cause a ripple; for that matter there was not a single sample of craft of any kind to disturb the tranquillity of the river-god apparently taking his rest. Crossing being out of the question, and there being for once no safety in the crowd, we bivouaced in the soft wet, even miry plain in front of the station. In the morning, some hours after dawn, a boat entered appearance and then another, but Rs. 25 was demanded for taking each passenger across the river! And, then, the sailors all made for the boats in such numbers as to drown them. Having some servants, we waited till after 10 o'clock, when the fare came down to Rs. 5, and then sailors had left, and then crossed. All this, however, is mere prose before the romance of this Oudh Railway.

### J. A MEASURE OF VALUE.\*

This is an outcome of the present agitation about the exchange difficulty. The text of the book is, that it is shamefully unjust to allow one man to grow rich in his sleep at the expense of another man. In order to measure the unjust gains and losses, and to prevent such gains and losses arising, the writer seeks a measure of value, by which he means an unvarying standard, by comparison with which we may ascertain from time to time the fluctuations (if any) in the value of the precious metals.

Our Home charges, says Mr. Pollard in the preface, are economically of the nature of a tribute. They are paid (some £22,000,000 annually all things included) not in money but in merchandize. Imports from a tribute-paying country are always of lower value in the tribute receiving country than (but for the tribute) they would be. In order to induce our English customers to buy more and more from us to pay for our imports and for our growing tribute, we must and do offer our merchandize on cheaper and cheaper terms. The value and cost of our exports thus inevitably fall in England with every increase of our tribute and their equivalent in silver now peculiarly Indian money must fall too. The depreciation of the Indian currency would not have happened, if silver were freely coined by other countries—France and America for instance. Part of our Home charges would be then paid in cash. An efflux of money from this country (or diminished influx) would take place and the fall in prices here would continue till the necessary demand for our exports was created by growing cheapness.

Although we should not under these circumstances "lose by exchange" in quite the same way, we should still lose to quite the same extent by having to pay exactly the same quantity of our merchandize as we pay now.

The writer is afraid lest bi-metallism be adopted by other countries and thereby the prices of all commodities and the money incomes of all persons in India other than the Indian officials drawing fixed salary be reduced. "The problem how to ensure the equi-

table redistribution of the rupees that remain in India, is one of the questions of the day for us outsiders." Or the present borrowing from England (and thereby increasing the Indian tribute) may come to an end sooner or later and the depreciation of silver in India that was arrested when the Home charge became due, about 18 or 20 years since may then resume its course. "Then" says he, "Indian officials will welcome a suggestion as to the best means of allowing their money incomes to expand with those of other people." Again, "the agitation for the double standard may fail, and America and France may demonitise their silver hoards; which will make serious difference in the purchasing power of silver here, while the scramble for gold may bring about a real scarcity of the metal."

But as the value of the precious metals is susceptible of changes, so are the values of all other commodities. The price-level of statisticians does not measure the value of gold and silver. The measuring of the value of gold by the prices of commodities in general is as useless, as trying to ascertain the correct time of day by striking an average of a lot of times of day which we know are hopelessly incorrect. The production of cotton goods, for instance, was increased 50 per cent. from 1860 to 1883 at the expense of only a 7 per cent. increase in the number of hands employed, and raw cotton, meanwhile, was cheapened considerably; so that from the price of cotton goods the appreciation of gold cannot possibly be inferred. The wages level, not the price level, is what we want. Measured according to this standard, the real value of gold in this country has arisen, but that of silver has not fallen since 1873.

Mr. Pollard quotes several passages from Adam Smith to prove his contention as to the measure of value. What he contends for is, that the measure and determining cause of value at the same time and place ought to be adopted as our standard of value at successive periods. Fluctuations in the wages-level prove beyond all dispute a falsification of the so called standard of value-money. The equitable distribution of the precious metals in accordance with their real value as declared by the Wages-level, is all that is needed in order to obviate the evil effects of their scarcity or superabundance. He concludes by recommending to abolish the "fixedness" of official salaries and all other contracts, and to cease international borrowing.

This little book is chiefly meant for the bi-metallists, specially the Anglo-Indian-Officials; and we cordially join with the writer in inviting them to peruse it. It contains many valuable instructions which they should do well to lay to heart in their present frantic agitation for bi-metallism.

We fully agree with Mr. Pollard so far as the main cause of the present derangement of the exchange is concerned. But we are afraid he has not correctly estimated the total remittances from India to England. £22,000,000 at 4 per cent. discount (the present rate of discount on silver) amounts to about 30 crores of rupees. If he had included all sorts of private remittances, i.e., remittances of Anglo-Indian officials, traders &c., which exert a no less influence in deranging the Indian exchanges than the Secretary of State's drafts, the total would have come up to 40 instead of 30 crores. Even, as it is, the Secretary of State merely acts as a conduit-pipe, through whom an immense number of private individuals—officials, traders, money-lenders &c.—living in England draw their share of the milk from the great milch-cow "India."

The writer has clearly shewn the injurious effects of the adoption of bi-metallism. We may point out, however, another additional evil effect which is not mentioned by him. One hundred or thousand rupees remitted to England by the Anglo-Indian officials when the exchange is at 15 6d a rupee, will be a far lesser evil in comparison with what the same would be if bi-metallism be adopted and the Indian exchange raised thereby to 25 a rupee.

We do not know if bi-metallism be ever adopted by several nations concertedly; or even if adopted they will be able to maintain the rates between gold and silver at 15½:1 for any length of time. Mr. Pollard's apprehension as to the effect of ceasing to borrow is groundless. Mr. Chapman, the late Financial Secretary to the Government of India, has shewn, as is also evident from the statistics relating to India, that the importation of silver to India is almost wholly due to her borrowing either in India or England. Not to speak of any repayment of debt incurred by the Government which

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\* *Gold and Silver Weighed in the Balance: A Measure of their Value: an Essay on Wealth and its Distributions during fluctuations in the value of Gold and Silver; &c.* By Thomas Inwood Pollard. Calcutta. Backer Spink & Co.



is likely to take place then,—the simple stoppage of borrowing by India will make silver scarce in India which will thus appreciate in India. Neither are we much concerned with America and France letting loose their silver hoards. The precious metals by the competition of commerce accommodate themselves in the different countries of the world according to the natural traffic and their respective economical conditions. Thus Turkey and Egypt have adopted the gold standard in their currencies, but in spite of cheap money in the other gold standard countries of Europe, money is very scarce in the former two countries.

We are really at a loss to understand why the writer is so anxious to establish the wages level as the standard of value. In England during the last 50 years, wages have risen about 100 per cent, prices remaining nearly the same as half a century ago. She has invested about £2,000,000,000 in other lands, the annual tribute received by her amounting to more than £100,000,000 worth of foreign merchandise, while prices thereof are falling at the rate of 36 per cent in little more than a dozen years. All this has happened without England having adopted the proposed measure of value. Is it then absolutely necessary for India to adopt this standard of value for her material progress?

Mr. Pollard seems to have taken a tender view of the Anglo-Indian officials, who as a rule obtain very big salaries in comparison to what similar officials get in other countries, and who have to remit money home. We are unable to make such fine distinction between the Government officials and the other people earning their livelihood in other ways. The salaries of the officials too will inevitably in the long run adjust themselves by competition according to the current rate of the country. Moreover we do not consider it a practical problem to adjust accurately the salaries of all officials every now and then according to the standard of the author. The preparation of an Indian Budget, under such circumstances by an ordinary Finance Minister, will become well nigh an impossibility.

The writer wants an invariable measure of value. If any measure be invariable it must be so absolutely, *i. e.*, at all times and in all places. But by the adoption of Mr. Pollard's measure of value, we are reduced to this:—gold has not appreciated in England and gold has appreciated in India; silver has depreciated in England, and silver has not depreciated in India. To prove that there is really no scarcity of gold in England, the author is reduced to this contradiction by the adoption of his own invariable measure of value. We are of opinion that the terms "appreciation" and "depreciation" are used relatively only. The same thing may be appreciated in relation to one thing, and depreciated in relation to another. Gold may be appreciated in relation to silver, and silver appreciated in relation to gold, though it does not follow that either of the metals is either appreciated or depreciated in relation to any other commodity in the world. Appreciation and depreciation do not necessarily suggest that anything has become either scarce or abundant. We therefore do not share the author's anxiety lest by the use of the expression appreciation of gold we are led to infer that gold has become scarce (see *Appreciation of Gold* by William Fowler, Cobden Club Series, p. 5.)

It is pointed out (P. 120.) that the wages of the skilled labourer in India varies from Rs. 8-9 to Rs. 24-6 annas per month and so for other kinds of labour. No wonder, considering the expanse of the country. And still England is extending her dominions towards Afghanistan and China. To obviate the diversity of wages Mr. Pollard recommends an average being taken of all the wages for the same kind of labour. Why not extend the process over the whole of Asia, and the whole of the world? The fact is the wages never remain constant either with regard to time or place. Not only the money wages but the real wages vary much owing to the prevalence of different circumstances.

The writer has also made an important oversight. He has proved clearly that by our Foreign indebtedness our commodities become depreciated in the foreign markets. But the same consequence follows in the case of wages too. Indian wages may be reduced indefinitely in comparison to English wages, for no other reason than our heavy foreign liability. How then is it possible to maintain an invariable measure of value applicable both to England and India, while the foreign indebtedness of India is increasing every year by leaps and bounds. Should the Anglo-Indian officials working in India receive their salaries according to the English or Indian measure of value?

We are strongly opposed to the abolition of or tampering with the permanent settlement in Bengal. To rule that instead of a fixed sum of money a fixed quantity of corn must be given to the Government every year will be a hardship, in times of scarcity not say famines. True there are some Native States in India where tribute is paid in the produce of the land instead of money. But the rule in such cases is not a fixed quantity but a proportion of the produce, and there prevails in these States a great elasticity in the collection of the rent.

Had there been no permanent settlement in Bengal, the Zemindars as a rich class would not have existed here. The whole income derived by them at present would have gone to the Government coffers as is the case with Madras and Bombay. The greater portion of income

thus derived from the country, would have ultimately found its way to England directly or indirectly. Whatever may be said against the permanent settlement in Bengal, it has proved a haven of refuge from calamities from which other parts of India have suffered.

### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

**GENERAL.**—The 21st May 1887. Baboo Girindra Nath Chatterjee, Deputy Collector, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VII (B. C.) of 1880 in the district of Furrceepore.

The 28th May 1887.—Baboo Mokunda Deb Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Aurungabad, Gya, is allowed leave for one month, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Dino Nath Dey, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore, on leave, is appointed to have charge of the Aurungabad sub-division of the Gya district.

The 30th May 1887.—Mr. R. H. Anderson, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purneah, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Moorshedabad, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. T. D. Beighton, or until further orders.

Baboo Gopal Chunder Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Durbhunga, is allowed leave for one month, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Baboo Prokash Chunder Roy, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chumparun, is allowed leave for 21 days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 25th inst.

Baboo Peary Mohun Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jamui, Monghyr, is allowed leave for six months, on private affairs, under section 130, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Annada Prasad Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is transferred to Monghyr, and is appointed to have charge of the Jamui sub-division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Peary Mohun Banerjee, or until further orders.

The 31st May 1887.—Mr. E. J. Barton, Magistrate and Collector, Jessore, on furlough, is promoted to the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 6th instant, *vice* Mr. F. Wyer, retired.

Mr. W. B. Oldham, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Burdwan, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 6th instant, *vice* Mr. E. J. Barton.

Mr. A. Forbes, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to be a Magistrate and Collector of the second grade, with effect from the 6th instant, *vice* Mr. E. J. Barton.

Mr. C. E. Buckland, Officiating Secretary to the Board of Revenue, is appointed to be Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue, with effect from the 6th instant, *vice* Mr. A. Forbes, but will continue to act, until further orders, in his present appointment.

**JUDICIAL.**—The 30th May 1887.—Baboo Hur Nath Ghose, Munsif of Sitakund, in the district of Chittagong, on leave, is appointed to be an Additional Munsif in the district of Noakhally.

In modification of the order, dated the 10th instant, Baboo Iswar Chunder Chatterjee, B.L., Officiating Munsif of Sitakund, in the district of Chittagong, is appointed to be a Munsif in the same district, to be ordinarily stationed at Sitakund, substantive *pro tem.*, *vice* Baboo Hur Nath Ghose.

Baboo Annoda Charan Sen, B.L., is appointed to act as an Additional Munsif in the district of Noakhally, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Hur Nath Ghose, or until further orders.

Mr. A. Rattray, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Darjeeling, is vested with powers under section 133 of Act X of 1882.

The 31st May 1887.—Baboo Bunkim Chunder Mitra, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Moorshedabad, to be ordinarily stationed at Kandi, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Loke Nath Nandi, or until further orders, with effect from the date on which he joins his appointment.

Mr. M. J. Monckton, Executive Engineer, Eastern Sone Division, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class for the trial of offences mentioned in section 16 of Act V (B.C.) of 1864, and in sections 93 to 95 of Act III (B.C.) of 1876, within canal limits in that division.

Baboo Rajoni Nath Mitter, Munsif of Habigunge, Sylhet, whose services have been replaced at the disposal of this Government by the Chief Commissioner of Assam, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Rungpore, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sudder station.

**GRANT OF LEAVE TO MUNSIFS.**—The 23rd May 1887.—Baboo Srigopal Chatterjee, Munsif of Sundeeep, in the district of Noakhally, is allowed leave for ten days, under section 128, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 26th March 1887.

The 26th May 1887.—Baboo Biraj Krishna Ghosh, Second Munsif of Sudharam, in the district of Noakhally, is allowed leave for six months, under section 134, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 25th November 1886.

The 27th May 1887.—Baboo Loke Nath Nandi, Munsif of Kandi, in the district of Moorshedabad, is allowed leave for one month and 24 days, under section 73, rule 1, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

The 28th May 1887.—Baboo Bhugubutty Churn Mitter, Third Munsif of Arrah, in the district of Shahabad, is allowed leave for 15 days, under section 73, rule 3, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 9th proximo, or from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Bidhu Bhusun Chakravarti, Third Munsif of Perozepore, in the district of Backergunge, is allowed leave for five weeks, under section 73, rule 1, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 8th proximo, or from the date on which he may be relieved.

## Law.

### SELF-GOVERNMENT IN COURT.—ALIPORE, 24-PERGS.

[Before H. Holmwood, Offg. Joint-Magistrate.]

Serial No. 139. Date of report: 20th April 1887. Name and Residence of complainant: Empress per Hem Chunder Hazra. Name, parentage, residence of accused: 1. Mohendranath Ganguli, son of Mohes Chunder Ganguli. 2. Doyal Kristo, son of Kalidhon Banerjee. 3. Jogen Chunder Banerjee, son of Saroda Persad Banerjee. 4. Nogendranath Banerjee, son of ditto: Offence complained of and date of its alleged commission: affray, section 160 I. P. C., 19th April 1887. The plea of the accused and his examination (if any): all not guilty. The finding: all guilty, section 160, I. P. C. The sentence and the date on which the proceedings terminated: All one month's rigorous imprisonment, 20th May 1887. Summary and Reason.

Both parties complained of being beaten in the public streets after an election row under circumstances which amounted to an affray.

Hem Chunder Hazra says he saw no assault outside in the streets. Mohendra Babu ran in from the streets and took refuge in his castor oil factory. Heard the persons outside "mar mar." Subsequently Jogen got in through the open door and kicked. Mohendranath ran away. Then he noticed that Mohendranath's head was streaming with blood. Says he heard that there was a municipal row but knows nothing about it.

Mohendranath Chowduri saw Doyal, Nogin, Jogen and others beat Mohendranath Ganguli with *lathis* in front of Sharoda Babu's house. Denies all knowledge of how Doyal got his wounds as he was not there at the beginning of the row. Bidhubhusan was with Mohendranath Ganguli. The row was about a municipal election. Could not see whether Doyal had any wounds. There was a great crowd, forty or fifty persons. Jogen had a *lathi* and one other person, he is not quite sure who, had a stick. Did not see an umbrella in Mohendranath Ganguli's hand. He was dressed in his office dress. 15 or 16 persons ran after him.

Rakhal Chunder Nath was going along to his work when he saw Mohendranath Ganguli and Doyal struggling and pulling at an umbrella. They were chattering at each other but he could not understand what they said. This was at 7 or 8 A.M.

Kali Chuckerbutty was the only other man there and he was trying to separate them. Then saw Mohendra Babu strike Doyal on the temple with an umbrella. Doyal caught hold of the umbrella and in the struggle Mohendra Babu fell down. Mohendra was dressed for office and he thinks Doyal was also similarly dressed. 7 to 8 is his breakfast hour. Kali Babu was dressed for office. Thinks Doyal was not as he lives at the place of occurrence.

Shaikh Gholam Hossein confirms the last witness exactly. He was coming back from Baranagar at 8 or a little after and was passing Sharoda Babu's house when he saw this. The house opens direct on the road and they were struggling in the road. Denies that he is a dalal. He has cases in the court. He made a civil suit against Dinonath Bhunya and another. The judgment in that suit declares witness to be a professional suit broker. In this case however it would not matter as he is not a witness suborned by either of the parties but he is a man whom the police named amongst many others and that I picked out because neither of the parties named him and he was a Mahomedan and therefore likely to be independent. Several persons came up among whom he recognized Kalinath Chakravarti. Mohendranath and Kali Babu pass every day that way to office. Doyal had only his *dhuti* on. The examination fully satisfied me that this witness saw what he says.

Mohendranath Ganguli's statement is that he was attacked on his way to office by the sons of Sharoda Babu and had to defend himself with his umbrella.

He calls witnesses: Nepal Chunder Bose, an employee in the Calcutta Municipal Office, deposes he was in company with Mohendranath and other Babus. He was on ahead and heard a row which he describes as a struggle for a sheet followed by a general

attack on Mohendranath who had an umbrella and fled. Says the reason was that Mohendranath made a speech the day before against Sharoda Babu who, he carefully explains with great fervour, was compelled to resign his post as Chairman under serious charges. The witness was one of the Commissioners who brought the serious charges against Sharoda. He gets Rs. 120 a month.

Narain Chunder Gupta. Not examined.

Jadunath Mazumdar—was the rival and successful candidate to Sharoda Babu. He naturally confirms Mohendranath's story but begins in the middle, though he says he was with the other Babus. Mr. Gopendra Krishna, Joint Magistrate of Scaldah, had to make Mohendranath withdraw the following expression in his speech of the day before, "Having vomited, why do you eat it up again," addressed to Sharoda Babu. Admits the umbrella with which Doyal was wounded belongs to Mohendranath Ganguli. Doyal is cousin to Sharoda Babu.

The other side call no witnesses.

Starting with the evidence of the defence of Mohendra which seems to come earliest in chronological order, I find that at the municipal election the day before the occurrence, Mohendranath made a most disgusting allusion to Babu Sharodaprosad the late Chairman. This insult he was compelled to withdraw by the Joint Magistrate of Scaldah who was presiding at the meeting.

Such a compulsory withdrawal did not I find debar Doyal from demanding an apology on behalf of his uncle (cousin).

Accordingly we find him, as all the witnesses agree, coming out in his *dhuti* and accosting Mohendranath Ganguli who was going to office with one Kali Charan Chuckerbutty and his nephew Bidhubhusan. No one volunteers to tell us what the conversation was except Doyal himself and we must therefore accept his version which seems a natural and probable one. It is that he asked Mohendranath Ganguli to explain what he meant by using such foul language against his uncle (cousin) the day before.

I find that this was the substance of the conversation, for the next thing we find in the evidence of Rakhal Chunder Nath incidentally corroborated by that of Nepal Chunder Bose for the defence, is an unseemly struggle with the umbrella which was undoubtedly I find Mohendranath's and with which he struck Doyal deliberately on the head causing him a severe black eye and cut temple.

The witnesses who favor Mohendranath's side, to wit his namesake Chowdhuri, support this view incidentally. He says Doyal had no *lathi*. He also says that he did not see how Doyal was wounded because he did not see the beginning of the row.

It is therefore certain that the first blow was struck by Mohendranath Ganguli and as he does not plead insult or provocation he must be fully responsible for it.

I then find that Jogen and Nogin or Nogendranath, the sons of the late Chairman Sharoda Baboo, rushed out to the aid of their cousin (uncle) Doyal and belaboured Mohendranath most unmercifully with sticks, giving him a severe cut on the head.

This was wholly unjustifiable as Doyal had only to let go of his his opponent's umbrella and retire and that there would have been no further breach of peace. Mohendranath Ganguli then fled into a shop where he was followed and kicked by Jogen. The evidence of both sides runs in a regular sequence and there is no inconsistency in the whole story. The affair became an affray when Mohendranath raised his umbrella and struck Doyal and Doyal struggled with him hanging on to his umbrella and to his neckcloth. It was joined in without justification by Jogen and Nogendranath and all are therefore liable to equal punishment. I say equal because I cannot tell how far Doyal's words may have provoked Mohendranath Ganguli, and although he refuses to plead provocation, a certain amount may be assumed.

But whichever way the case is regarded, it is a most disgraceful thing that the leaders of Local Self-Government in a place like Baranagar should descend to a common street row and severely beat each other, and I think an example should be made for the public benefit which a fine would not adequately secure.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

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CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1887.

No. 277

## The Week.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY has determined to visit Burdwan on the 22nd instant and to have a conference with both the Maharanis on the subject of the adoption.

THE Queen has been pleased to sanction the appointment of Mr. SAYED MAHMUD as a Puisne Judge of the Allahabad High Court.

THE *Amrita Bazar Patrika* hears that full powers of a Sessions Judge have at last been conferred on Baboo BHOJENDRA KUMAR SEAL and that he has been promoted to the Second Grade.

THERE has been heavy rain in different parts of the country. At Mozufferpore it is reported to have been nearly 8 inches. In the easternmost districts the downpour was more heavy and continuous. A Silchar telegram dated 4th instant reports continuous heavy rain from the 2nd instant and the rise of the river to over 30 feet. Another telegram from Moulvi Bazar reports over 15 inches to have fallen since the 2nd instant. The whole surrounding tract is flooded.

THE late cyclone, writes an eyewitness, was attended with a heavy tidal wave which buried under it several of the properties in the Hooghly delta, usually called Sunderbun Lots. The embankment has been breached, and fallen in many places, *khals* which had been nearly dried up having cut their way clean through the dam. The whole of the Tangra *bat*, south of Kulpi, has been swept away, with produce to the value of thousands of rupees.

THERE was a great fire at Naraingunge attended with loss of property estimated at Rs. 40,000. The chief sufferer is one NITYANANDA KUNDU whose *pucca* godown containing cotton and kerosine oil has fallen down.

THE evidence of Lala SALIGRAM before the Public Service Commission is manly and independent. He would recruit the best men, wherever obtainable. Natives and Europeans work equally well, and recruitment depended, according to him, more on individuals than on race. The pay, however, should be sufficient to attract good natives. Some of the European officers of the Postal Department, of course, were strongly against the employment of natives in the superior ranks.

A BOMBAY telegram reports the termination of the sensational case of Morton :—

"Morton, *alias* Cockburn, formerly indigo planter in Assam, was sentenced to-day to six months' rigorous imprisonment for defrauding a firm of Bombay tradesmen. Regarding the share the accused's sister had taken in the fraud, the Magistrate said that, whatever might be their relations, her conduct in describing herself in tradesmen's books as his wife, when she swore she was only his sister, was calculated in the highest degree to prejudice the accused, and strengthen the chain of fraud."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Indian Daily News* writes as follows :—

"Gogan Chunder Soor, Accountant of the Hooghly and Chinsurah Municipality, and an inhabitant of British Chandernagore, who was committed to the Sessions by Baboo Shamadhub Roy, Deputy Magistrate of Hooghly, in April last, on the charge of embezzlement of public money, and fraud, has been found guilty of forgery and criminal

breach of trust, and the District and Sessions Judge of Hooghly has sentenced him to five years' rigorous imprisonment.

Another clerk, Bepin Behary Ghose, of the Sooree (Beerbhoom) Municipality, who was also committed to the Sessions, on similar charges, has been sentenced by the Sessions Judge of Beerbhoom to six years' rigorous imprisonment."

THE Maharajah of Pattiala intends making a donation of Rs. 20,000 to the Panjab Association. His Highness, or the Regency has also contributed Rs. 10,000 to the Jubilee Fund.

A DECCAN paper narrates a most brutal case of assault, committed on two Europeans at a village named Dornakul on the Nizam's Guaranteed Railway by a party of dacoits. It was midnight and the victims were fast asleep. The sound of human voices soon awakened them, but before they could realize their position, they were most unmercifully belaboured with clubs and bludgeons till they fainted with loss of blood and exhaustion. The miscreants are yet at large.

THE latest advices from Rangoon report the continuance of fighting. The English troops have captured a good number of Burmans. Some Burman leaders have also surrendered.

THE Syndicate of the Punjab University have declined to accept the resignation tendered by Mr. LARPER of his office of Registrar, and here will be a meeting of the Senate to consider the serious charges that lie against him. In the meantime he has been suspended.

THE following Afghan news is published in the papers :—

"The stories of the Amir's sending money and jewels to Badakshan are said by well-informed Afghans to be baseless.

A special telegram from Quetta says that the Gilzai revolt is dragging on; the Gilzais refuse to pay taxes everywhere. The Afghan position is impregnable, and Ghulam Haider is negotiating with the Gilzais, who declare that they will come down and give him battle in the plains, if he is afraid to attack them.

The Amir's people have been so far successful in keeping news of the revolt from the Gilzai soldiers at Herat.

I hear from a reliable source at Quetta that merchants have come there, saying that a scuffle ensued a fortnight back between a number of Afghans and the Bokharians, the former remaining victorious."

THE state of affairs in Jamnugger requires looking after. A correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* says :—

"The state of affairs in Jamnagar gives no sign of improving. Murders and robberies are of frequent occurrence, and thieves and outlaws are getting bolder every day in their depredations, on account of the security which they enjoy under the inefficiency of the present administration. A band of marauders lately appeared near Salasia, a seaport town in the territory of the Jam Saheb, and had the effrontery to give the inhabitants a warning to be on their guard, as they intended shortly to commit a raid on the place. The terror-stricken people of the town have addressed petitions to the durbars to take proper steps for guarding the place against the threatened danger, but there has as yet been no response to their appeal. The merchants have, therefore, struck, and all business is at a standstill. If the authorities persist in giving no ear to their prayers, the people have resolved to leave the town in a body, and settle in any place which may afford a better security of life and property."

The correspondent gives instances of robbery and outrage.

News has since arrived of the increasing unpopularity of the Amir. His health is also getting worse and worse, and he is found to be morose and sullen and distrustful of every body. He is fearful of danger to his life.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be

THE appeals of the clerks against the curtailment of their Ooty allowances have so far prevailed as to induce the Government of India to rule that the minimum and maximum allowance shall be Rs. 15 and 100.

THERE will be an election for the Presidentship of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. TURNER being unexpectedly called home. Mr. ROBERT STEEL, says the *Pioneer*, is likely to be elected.

LIEUTENANT COLVIN becomes Private Secretary to Sir AUCLAND COLVIN who assumes the Government of the North Western Provinces on 20th November next.

THE Sultan will be represented at Her Majesty's Jubilee by his eldest son Prince SELIM EFFENDI. Prince SELIM, who was born in 1870, is said to be an intelligent boy. He speaks French and English and is acquainted with European manners. Of course, he goes accompanied by a goodly number of companions, attendants and camp-followers, besides drynurses and *chaperones*.

MAHARAJAH Holkar accompanied by Sir LEPEL GRIFFIN arrived at London on 7th June.

THE Queen's new carriage for use in the Jubilee is not gorgeous but of high artistic taste. The upholstery is colored in a blending of gold with subdued colours, while the outside is decorated in the most *recherche* style.

THE 21st June is appointed by royal proclamation as "a special day to be observed as a Bank Holiday throughout the United Kingdom."

THE following is a correct and complete list of the Imperial and Royal visitors to England for the Jubilee from abroad:—

"The King and Queen of Denmark, the King and Queen of the Belgians, the King of Saxony, the King of Greece, the Crown Prince and Crown Princess of Germany, Prince and Princess William of Prussia, Prince Henry and the Princesses Victoria, Sophia, and Margaret of Prussia, the Crown Prince and Crown Princess of Austria, the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess Serge (Princess Elizabeth of Hesse) of Russia, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, the Crown Prince and Crown Princess of Sweden, the Grand Duke of Hesse and the Hereditary Prince and Princesses Irene and Alice of Hesse-Darmstadt, the Prince and Princess Philip of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Hereditary Prince of Waldeck and Pyrmont (brother of the Duchess of Albany), the Duke and Duchess of Braganza, the Prince and Princess Antonio of Spain, the Duke of Aosta, the Duchess of Sonderburg-Augustenburg and her son the Duke Ernest, the Hereditary Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Oldenburg, the Landgrave of Hesse, the Hereditary Prince and Princess of Saxe-Meiningen, the Prince and Princess Hermann of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, the Prince and Princess of Leiningen, and Prince and Princess Louis of Battenberg."

MR. PERRINS, of "Worcestershire sauce" renown is dead, leaving over £665,000, besides some real property and a large collection of pictures, objects of art, &c. Up to the last, he regularly attended his warehouse, and personally superintended the mixing of the sauce, the recipe of which was kept a profound secret.

SIR WEST RIDGEWAY has left St. Petersburg for London to consult with his Government. This is practically as much as to say that all is over with the Boundary Commission.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL, having resigned office, is apparently determined to be a thorn in the side of the Government. His Lordship has been exposing the inefficiency and weakness of the English armaments, and charging the War Office and the Admiralty with a series of flagrant errors and abuses. The arms of the forces, says Lord RANDOLPH, are bad, the transport is inadequate, and none of the fortresses, not even Malta, are properly supplied with arms and provisions. He calls for radical reforms in those Departments, and appeals to the Democratic party to insist on their execution.

This new position of his Lordship is deemed in some quarters irreconcilable with the ground on which he resigned. The extravagance of the military expenditure may coexist, however, with administrative corruption, and the reform of the armaments may be compatible with economy. A subsequent telegram announces the appointment

of a Select Committee to enquire into the estimates, of which Lord RANDOLPH is likely to be the Chairman.

THE state of things in Ireland may be imagined from the fact that a Sheriff requires no less a force than three hundred soldiers and police for his protection in carrying out evictions. Boiling water and vitriol are poured over the bailiffs. Stern resistance is offered to the enforcement of the law, and incitements to violence are encouraged by the Nationalist leaders.

A BERLIN telegram says that the relations between Russia and Germany have grown more cordial, and an early meeting of the Czar, and the Emperors WILLIAM and FRANCIS JOSEPH is likely to take place.

THE Italian Government is taking vigorous measures for strengthening its position at Massowah. A special credit of seven million lire has been granted for defraying the cost of the forces in Africa.

THE four per cent Indian Loan placed on the London market for conversion to 3½ per cent., amounts to 48 millions sterling.

A SERIES of "ovations" have been given to Mr. GLADSTONE in his progress through Wales and the enthusiasm of the demonstration knew no bounds. At Singleton Abbey, on the 4th instant, no less than forty thousand Welsh Liberals passed in procession before him. Mr. GLADSTONE delivered long speeches throughout his way, dwelling in especial on the Irish question. He has now returned to London.

A VOTE of money for the speedy completion of the Trans-Caspian Railway to Samarcand and *via* Bokhara as well as enlarged powers to INNENKOFF have been sanctioned by the Russian Government. On the other hand, the people of Bokhara are reported to be intensely dissatisfied with the Amir's extortions to meditate transferring their allegiance to the Czar.

THE London Correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* telegraphs that the Russian Government, according to the *Times*' Correspondent, has declined to receive a British Consul at the places on the Afghan frontier where telegraphic communications have lately been established. Permission has also been refused to a Special Correspondent of the *Times* proceeding to Central Asia. In view of the repeated affronts which the English have received at the hands of the Russians in the course of the Boundary Commission business, it is surely a matter of wonder how the British Government can court further humiliation in the way indicated in the above telegram.

THE latest news regarding the movements of Maharajah DHULIP SING:—

"A Russian officer, General Bogdanovitch, under whose auspices Dhulip Singh has undertaken a mission for Russia, has resigned his commission in the army to join a caravan of which the owner is a Moscow merchant named Kanschina. The caravan has set out from Merv in charge of some of General Alikhanoff's officers, who are disguised as merchants. The *Times* affirms that it is undoubtedly the intention of Russia to repeat the Afghan-Turkestan tricks, by which Alikhanoff pretending to be a merchant in charge of a caravan, effected the annexation of Merv to Russia."

THE following is going the round of the press:—

"Those in England who love orchids have to pay for their passion. At a sale of a famous collection of these beautiful flowers the other week, the sum of 310 guineas was given for a single plant. This is said to be the highest price ever paid for a single orchid, and as the plant was bought by a well-known firm of horticulturists, it may be assumed that the price represents the market value of the plant, and not the reckless estimate of some enthusiasts."

Four thousand Rupees for a flowering parasite! Surely the good people are suffering from a pecuniary plethora. At any rate, the quest after rare and costly plants and flowers is more rational and profitable, and altogether more honorable than the passion for postage stamps.

A TOPOGRAPHICAL survey will be taken at Government expense of the States of Travancore, Pudukota and Cochin.

THE sum already expended on the Panama Canal is 40 millions and over double of that amount will be required for its completion.

THE Lucknow *Express* announces the Hon. Sir Rana SHANKER BAKHSH SINGH, K.C.I.E., of Khajurgaon's intention to establish a hospital at Rai Bareilly in honour of Sir ALFRED LYALL—the ruler of the hour of the Province who has honoured him. Another issue of the same paper publishes a private note to him from Mr. H. B. HARRINGTON, Commissioner of Rai Bareilly, before the latter's departure on furlough, by way of a certificate of the leading Talookdar of the District and the President of the British Indian Association of Oudh.

UTILITY need not be forgotten in loyalty :—

"Fifty pairs of boots are to be the Jubilee offering of Stafford to the Queen. The costermongers of Hoxton intend to give her Majesty a donkey, as they heard that the Queen has been using a dokey-chair."

THE Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal has properly drawn the attention of the authorities to the necessity of more strictly carrying out the orders against throwing dead bodies into the river Hooghly. The orders have of late fallen out of sight.

THE French and Russian Ambassadors at Constantinople have, as might be expected, protested to the Porte against the terms of the Egyptian Convention.

THE Suez Canal for some distance being now thrown open to navigation in the night to ships lighted with electric lamps, a number of vessels have availed of the privilege, thereby making the passage in 24 hours, with a clear gain of 12 hours. The time will be further reduced to 16 hours when the entire length of the canal is navigable in the night.

WE regret to hear of the death of Pandit HARINATH NAYARATNA of Shibpore. He belonged to the new school of political pandits, but was not fussy enough to come to the front. He had been a Professor of the Sanskrit College. On his retirement on pension, he threw himself with zeal into public movements, and was one of the few advocates of Local Self-Government among the aged members of the community.

FROM 1st to 15th May, the galleries were closed for the annual cleaning, yet there were at the Indian Museum last month 15,814, native males, and 5,407 females, and 231 European males and 64 females, total 21,516 visitors, or a daily average for the 12 days on which the Museum was open to the general public of 1,793 visitors.

ERRATUM.—In the course of printing, we discover and hasten to warn the reader, that the paragraph at the end of the 2nd col. of the opening page has been detached from its proper place at the end of the preceding item of Afghan news.

## Editorial Notes.

THE last was the Examination week of the Bengali Press. Both the *Bangabasi* and the *Education Gazette*, and we know not how many other vernacular papers, were filled with the list of passed candidates at the last University Entrance, without a single line of other matter.

THE Education Department, not having been able to complete its award of scholarships on the results of the late University Examination, owing to the large number of passed candidates, the summer vacation of Government schools and colleges has been extended for another week.

THE Allahabad *Railway Service Gazette* at length says, cautiously enough :—"For some reasons we are not quite sure that the Native Press is not justified in its action"—to wit, its demand for the production of papers in the matter of charges against Mr. JOHN BEAMES, of the Civil Service, Senior Member of the Board of Revenue. We hope the redoubtable conductor of the Railway paper will not suffer in his popularity for his present rashness.

THE largest single doctor's fee on record was that offered, according to the *World*, to Mr. ANDERSON CRITCHETT to go to India to treat an Indian Prince. Notwithstanding, the princely honorarium was rejected, thus verifying old Bishop HALL'S remark—

"No horse-leech but will look for larger fee."

SIND has a great grievance in connection with her railway communications, the removal of which has been constantly urged, though with little success so far. She is naturally fretful. It is openly insinuated

that she is being sacrificed to the commercial jealousy of Bombay, and in the natural irritation of long disappointment, her very connection with Bombay is bewailed and a longing wish expressed that Sind were tacked on to the Punjab which has always lent her a helping hand. A large and enthusiastic meeting was lately held in the Frere Hall at Karachi, in which free expression was given to these feelings. The object of the meeting was to send up another memorial to Government urging the construction of a railway line from Hyderabad *via* Umarcote to connect Karachi with the Jodhpore State Railway. The leading European representatives of the commerce of the port took the prominent part. The line will bring the wheat producing districts around Delhi 300 miles nearer to Karachi, giving that port an advantage over Bombay of 100 miles. The alleged difficulties of the route from the sandhills towards the Rajputana side are pointed out to be imaginary. The allegation as to these difficulties rests upon the survey which, under the orders of Government, was made of the tract in question some time ago, but later investigations made by experts, whose opinions are entitled to at least equal weight, have disproved the results of the first survey. Sir THEODORE HOPE, however, is against the proposed line. The Public Works Member is committed to a line from Ajmere to Bhawalpore. This line is recommended by military considerations alone, but the memorialists urge that the connection of Ajmere with Karachi will be equally suitable for strategic purposes, while its commercial advantages will be decidedly greater.

THE tea planters held a meeting at Silchar to protest against the proposed substitution of Act I of 1882 for Act XIII of 1857. The *Pioneer* writes both finely and fairly on the subject. The following account is given by an eye-witness in the new native paper of Silchar :—

"On Monday the 23rd inst. (May) at 2 P.M., a monster meeting (so it was termed) of the local non-official European community was held at the premises of the Retreat Club, presided over by Mr. W. Aitchison, the leader. The professed object of the meeting was to decide upon the best expedients against the repeal of Act XIII but the actual proceedings went on also to dilate on matters, such as the proposed removal of the Regiment from here, extension of Railway communication from Frenchganj to Cachar and the merits of the Local Executive officers. At present a native Extra Assistant Commissioner is the next official to the Deputy Commissioner. In the absence of the latter from Head quarters, the Babu has the charge of the D. C.'s office, and since Mr. Patten's departure a native Inspector has been in charge of the District police. These were some of the grievances to which one of the speakers drew the earnest attention of the meeting. It was at last resolved to memorialise the Government praying for the removal of their grievances. We may mention that there was a great deal of indulging in immoderate and vehement language towards the Government by some of the speakers. We had been on our legs in several meetings in Calcutta and other places but never knew of one in which the proceedings were so irregular and unconstitutional. It was extraordinary that all the speakers came with speeches written from home and it was very difficult for us to decipher which were the resolutions and which the comments thereon. Further there was nothing in the way of discussion or controversy, as anything put to vote, was carried out unanimously."

It is the old story. It was a monster meeting by all manner of means, if not in the ordinary acceptance of the phrase. It was such poor scarecrows that frightened the good RIFON into abandonment of the integrity of his Criminal Jurisdiction Bill.

The only difference observed in the present meeting was the presence of a couple of Baboos sharing in the demonstration of the boisterous Britishers.

The things we know are neither rich nor rare,

But wonder how the devil they got there.

Mr. AITCHISON, however, is well spoken of for having a proper regard for the decencies and formalities of a public meeting.

THE Commissioners of the Hooghly and Chinsurah Municipality deserve to be congratulated on their having exercised their privilege in electing an unofficial Chairman in the place of the Joint-Magistrate Mr. DE, transferred. We should, however, warn the wellknown Government Pleader, Babu ISSEN CHUNDER MITTER, of the peculiar difficulties of the position to which he has been called. He may discharge his duties ever so well, but there is no escape from the jealousy of rivals and the mischief-making of the irresponsible. He should take the utmost care to conciliate his colleagues, and give no handle to the designing. Local Self-Government in this country has good elements of success, were it not for the inevitable faction that starts up. There is no help for this but in the development of public spirit and the combination of the respectable part of the community to defeat the machinations of the less reputable. We hope the Hooghly Corporation



will gave their chairman loyal support. If his colleagues prove false, the constituencies and the public generally should coerce them.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is far from satisfied with the collections of the Road Cess and Public Works Cess during the last year. The gross demand was about ninety lakhs, of which a little more than seventy-five lakhs was realized, leaving a balance of nearly upon fourteen lakhs outstanding at the close of the year. There has, it is true, been slight reduction both in arrear and in current balances, but the general result is declared by Sir STEUART BAYLEY to be unsatisfactory. Nor are the explanations offered by the District Collectors sufficient. One Collector's explanation is more marked by his simplicity than his intelligence or sense of responsibility. The Collector of Durbhunga says that the falling off in the collections "is chiefly due to the abolition of the long-standing practice of demanding payment of cesses before accepting the revenue challans during the Kist days from the beginning of the current cess year"! Both the Board and the Government agree in regarding this as an illegal practice which ought never to have been tolerated.

THE Government of India has issued a Resolution conveying its acknowledgments of the labors of the Finance Committee. By the redistribution of the Provincial contracts alone, the Imperial finances have been a gainer to the extent of over fifty-lakhs, and this has been achieved, the Government of India believes, without any injury to the provincial finances. The thanks of the Governor-General in Council are, therefore, especially due to Sir CHARLES ELLIOT and the other members of the Finance Committee who were deputed to work out the basis of the new contracts with the assistance of local members nominated by the provincial Governments. They have shown great judgment and industry in the performance of this delicate task, and the notes prepared by them "have thrown light upon the administration of the provincial finances which it has never received before, and have placed it in the power of the provincial Governments to introduce extensive economies into their administration without prejudice to efficiency." There are several other proposals made by the Finance Committee, especially in regard to reduction of its own expenditure by the Government of India, and these proposals are now under consideration. In some of these cases there are questions of policy involved which, the Resolution adds, may override the consideration of economy. Anyhow, it is not possible for the Government to anticipate at present the action which may be adopted with regard to them. The final settlement of all these questions may be a work of time, but the Government cannot defer any longer expressing its thanks to the Committee as well as the local officers who have successively assisted them. Until the final disposal of the Committee's reports by the Secretary of State, they will be treated as confidential documents, but steps may be taken for their publication afterwards.

THE appeal in the Nuddea murder case has been dismissed by the High Court. A most shocking case of murder, in which the wife co-operates with her paramour in perpetrating the foul murder of her husband, and the only child of the unhappy couple, a son of 8 years old, supposed by the murderers to be asleep, but who had been awakened, is the chief direct witness to the guilt of his mother and her mother's sweetheart, the story has sent a thrill of horror through the community. The decision of the Chief Justice in appeal must give great satisfaction.

FOR one decision, however, which has been upheld on appeal, there are numbers which have been recently quashed by the High Court. Indeed, since the advent of Sir COMER PETHERAM to the Bench of the Calcutta High Court, not a week has passed in which the administration of justice in the lower Courts has not come under its review, the result being the exposure of a state of things far from creditable to our judiciary. The other day a sentence of transportation for life passed by the Judge of Jessore in a case of murder was quashed, and the Judge came in for some strictures for his placing undue reliance upon the evidence of a boy who appears to have been the only material witness in support of the charge. The Civilian Puisne Judge who sat with the Chief Justice added that he had great experience of the ways of the police in concocting evidence in false cases, and the present case appeared to be one fresh from police hands. The decision of the Meherpore Solon in the now notori-

ous fishery case has been also quashed, and a sharp wiggling administered to him for his having sentenced some of the defendants to whipping and thus debarred them from the relief which a motion to the High Court has obtained for the other defendants. The Chief Justice declared that the facts made out no criminal offence. The daily papers are full of reports of similar instances of failure of justice righted at last by the intervention of the High Court. What a commentary this on our administration of justice which is often spoken of as the strongest point of the British Rule! Talking of judicial administration, one is involuntarily reminded of the case of Macauliffe *versus* Browne in the Punjab. In that case a Divisional Judge is found guilty not only of delivering judgment before hearing the defence, but in his attempt to clear himself of the charge, he makes his case worse, and now stands before the world clearly convicted of perjury. That is indeed an exceptionally bad case, but what are we think of the general character of our provincial Courts when cases after cases are brought up before the High Court and found to be unsustainable in law or even upon the facts as disclosed in evidence. In these cases miscarriages of justice are often found to be directly traceable to the combination of judicial and executive functions in the same officers. In other cases it is due to the natural ignorance on the part of European officers of the commonest things of native life. The worst part, however, of these cases is the immunity of the Judges from the just consequences of their incapacity. The High Court in its revisional jurisdiction only reverses their decisions, or in exceptional cases takes a severe notice of their irregular proceedings. Beyond that, they get no other punishment. Who will say that such cases are adequately met in this way?

THIS is *Punch's* deliverance on the way in which government by public meeting is now being conducted in sober Old England:—

"THE BUSINESS OF THE NATION."

What is "The business of the nation?"

Endless row, roundaboutation,

Mutual spite and objurgation,

Egotistic self-inflation,

Partisan disintegration,

Venomous vilification,

Pettifogging aggravation,

General exasperation,

Universal degradation,—

That's "The business of the Nation,"

As 'tis done in Parliament.

Is't not time the lot were sent,—

Ere BULL'S brain is dazed to dizziness,—

Each and all, about *their* business?

That is well-expressed, and unfortunately true to the letter. It is enough to make one despair of Parliamentary institutions.

MR. GLADSTONE may be right, after all. He is in a fair way of success, at any rate. Meanwhile, he is one by one alienating all his supporters of any eminence in the ranks of science, art, and literature. The latest defection is that of Mr. SWINBURNE. The Poet of Italian Unity and Republicanism has thundered against the Grand Old Man in verse some of which will long live in British memory. We subjoin the best stanzas:—

"Shall England consummate the crime

That binds the murderer's hand, and leaves

No surety for the trust of thieves?

Time pleads against it—truth and time—

And pity frowns and grieves."

\* \* \*

"The hoary henchman of the gang

Lifts hands that never dew nor rain

May cleanse from Gordon's blood again,

Appealing: pity's tenderest pang

Thrills his pure heart with pain.

"Grand helmsman of the clamorous crew,

The good grey recreant quakes and weeps

To think that crime no longer creeps

Safe toward its end: that murderers too

May die when mercy sleeps."

\* \* \*

"So pleads the gentlest heart that lives,  
Whose pity, pitiless for all  
Whom darkling terror holds in thrall,  
Towards none save miscreants yearns and gives  
Alms of warm tears—and gall."

"Bow down for fear, then, England: bow,  
Lest worse befall thee yet; and swear  
That nought save pity, conscience, care,  
For truth and mercy, moves thee now  
To call foul falsehood fair."

"So shalt thou live in shame, and hear  
The lips of all men laugh thee dead;  
The wide world's mockery round thy head  
Shriek like a storm-wind; and a bier  
Shall be thine honour's bed."

WE have received a contradiction of our version of the late incident at Hyderabad. We cannot do better than publish the following telegram from that capital:—

"To Editor, *Reis & Rayyet*.  
From FARIDDOONJI JAMSHEDJE, *Private Secretary*.  
Article on Hyderabad published in your issue of 28 (May) regarding Colonel Marshall and Madhi Ali seems to be based on false information supplied you. No truth in the statements made which kindly contradict."

LORD REAY has given an elaborate reply to the deputation of Christian Missionaries and other promoters of temperance, who waited on him with a prayer for increased restrictions being placed upon the liquor traffic. His Lordship, after paying a graceful and eloquent compliment to the benevolent character of the temperance movement, and referring incidentally to the bearings of an improved water-supply upon the growth of temperate habits, went at great length into the history of the Government policy in regard to the administration of the excise, and pointed out, by a copious array of statistics, how the results of the administration, at any rate, of late years, have steadily been an enhancement in the price of liquor, and a diminution of drunkenness. His Lordship for his own Government declared a determination to watch with vigilance the administration of the Department. As the abuses of subordinate officials rather than the policy of the administration are mainly responsible for the evils which are complained of, such an assurance would be satisfactory, were it not for the fact, that secure in the technicalities of their practice, excise officials have always had their own way in augmenting the revenue by an indiscriminate multiplication of licenses, and that they are scarcely amenable to any higher considerations than considerations of revenue.

THE rule which forbids Government officers other than heads of Governments, from receiving farewell public addresses, testimonials and entertainments, is more honored in the breach than in the observance, and some recent instances of its violation at Bombay have come under the notice of the Government of India. Orders have therefore been passed on Local Governments and Administrations for the strict enforcement of the rule in future. This is well and good, if rather unfair to those who come after the harvesting of testimonials by their predecessors.

AKIN to the abuse of testimonials to officials, is the practice, widely prevalent, of officials lending their influence to enforce subscriptions for public objects from the people. We have always deprecated this practice, and have specially bewailed the weakness of our people in submitting to it. The practice has now grown into a nuisance, and in some parts, as Madras, degenerated into a rank oppression. In Tanjore, in the latter Presidency, for instance, the *mirasdars* have been called upon to subscribe at a fixed rate in proportion to their

*Holloway's Pills.*—Sleeplessness, flatulency, acidity, nausea, and all dyspeptic indications may be speedily relieved by these famous Pills, of which large quantities are shipped to all parts of the world. The constantly increasing demand for Holloway's medicine proves its power over disease, and its estimation by the public. In weakness of the stomach, in diseases of the liver, and in disorders of the system caused by cold or a sluggish circulation, no medicine is so efficacious, no remedy so rapid, as these Pills, which are altogether incapable of doing mischief. By quickening digestion, they give refreshing sleep, sharpen the appetite, impart tone to the digestive organs, purify and enrich the blood, regulate the secretions, and strengthen the whole physical frame.

holdings, and their subscriptions will doubtless be realised like a state demand on the land. It is time enough for Government to interfere.

Holding such views, however, we confess we cannot sympathise with those who are kicking up a row over Mr. Secretary PEACOCK'S correspondence with certain plutocrats about subscribing to the proposed Imperial Institute in London. That correspondence was not only demi-official, but confidential, and as such should have been sacred. Nor was there anything serious in the letters—anything for which Mr. PEACOCK need be ashamed. After all, the Secretary has only carried out orders, and these orders have their source beyond this country. Altogether, our friends have seized the wrong topic to start a grievance, and decidedly at the wrong moment. They are doing their worst to undo the effect of the country's loyalty.

WE regret that our long note on the musical proclivities of the menial staff of the High Court, having long been in type, was launched forth last week without the necessary corrections. Those who file the paper will please change it in the 2nd line to Law; in l. 3, Gay science to Gay Science; and place the after of in l. 7. In the 2nd column, place of after "enthusiasm." In l. 13, cheer should be cheerless.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1887.

THE GREAT EUROPEAN CHANCELLOR.  
ENGLISHMEN habitually misunderstand foreign public characters—not only those of the Continent but also those of that American Union, which BRIGHT has always regarded as the Greater Britain and whose people GLADSTONE speaks of as "kin beyond the sea." They misunderstood the illustrious refugees, French, Italian and Magyar, thrown among them by the chances of war and revolution. Republicans and democrats were as contemptible as men without acres or consols. A popular English public man of high character was utterly compromised to the extent of being absolutely shunned, in consequence of the disclosure of his connection with MAZZINI, though the master of the Eleusinian mysteries of the "Black Chamber" in St. Martin's le Grand—the very Home Secretary by whose command the correspondence of the (so to say) private public was detained and tampered with and the sacred confidence between man and man exposed to the rude scrutiny and ready suspiciousness of the mercenaries of a Government department—maintained his caste and credit. If it is true that, after the lapse of an age, Mr. STANSFELD recovered some of his old ground, that was due chiefly to the respect which he never ceased to command as a man of wealth and a Yorkshire Zemindar. The contempt of British society for the strangers it was that, obliterating the natural sense of gratitude for asylum and even hospitality, at length provoked the famous reprisal in LEDRU ROLLIN'S pamphlet on the Decline of England. The British had no idea of the influence these homeless necessitous exiles exercised on the politics of the Continent as in the secret councils of public men. They beheld the activity of MAZZINI with almost amused pity. They were certainly unprepared for the disclosures in KOSSUTH'S *Auto-biography*. He whom they regarded as only a born orator and a literary phenomenon, as exhibiting a mastery of English eloquence beyond any native, was a power in Europe. His assistance was sought for by the Emperor of the French, then the arbiter of the civilised world. He was supposed to have in his hands the shaping, in some measure, of the fortunes of the HAPSBURGS and the ROMANOFFS. So they would not recognise the greatest Frenchman of our day. Many still hold the philosophic imbecile GUIZOT superior to the all-powerful TRIBUNE GAMBETTA. They did not understand LOUIS NAPOLEN any better, identifying

with dulness the force that underlay his gloomy reserve, ignoring the charm of his patronymic, and altogether thinking the volatile impressible French as if they were staid Britons beyond the British Channel. They pitied the wild maniac who hoped to succeed in his ambition for empire by the arts of a low election-agent who had his pockets full of jingling coin and with the help of a bird-tamer. Even when he became President of the Republic by universal suffrage, they were not convinced that there was anything in the man. And when he became sovereign by force and fraud, they naturally did not see the weak points in his character or the rottenness of his system. The blaze of imperialism obscured their perceptions. When KINGLAKE called attention to his cowardice, adducing facts to show that he was a sort of MEER KASIM of Bengal History, they were wroth with the historian. The practical nation believed in the man of the hour. When, at length, the crash came, none were so overwhelmed with wonder and vexation. Yet the end had been distinctly forepictured by the prescience of genius in one of the finest passages in literature in VICTOR HUGO's first pamphlet against the Man of December.

If Englishmen are thus at sea in regard to Continental revolutionists and usurpers, are they better judges of the public men under monarchies, more or less limited, and all constitutional? We do not see. They have always failed with the greatest of them—BEUST and BISMARCK. For a long series of years, the Baron and the Count (now Prince) were the *bêtes noires* of the British Press. It is many years since the prejudices caused by the Danish War have passed away, yet only last year the former died without proper recognition. His more successful rival has not, with all his successes, been able to conquer the British heart. And this because the British mind does not comprehend such a character. BISMARCK has always been misunderstood—by the Philistine *Record* as by the antiphilistine *Saturday Review*. We remember how, in the early days of BISMARCK's struggle with the German Left, the enlightened *Spectator* painted his full length portrait as the "Prussian Tyrconnel." Could misunderstanding farther ago? With years and their thick showers of events, if a change has come over the spirit of the conductors of the great London weekly and over other superior minds in the country, the appreciation of the people has scarcely been quickened. They all recognise the man's marvellous success, no doubt, but they still but dimly perceive his immense size. He is a puzzle. He is regarded as an absolutely illiberal, hopelessly coarse, and thoroughly brutal, but prodigiously lucky, man who, to the misfortune of Europe, is now the arbiter of its destinies. Yet, in receiving the fallen NAPOLEON, he exhibited the dignified chivalry of a true gentleman and almost the tenderness of a lady. And his sympathy for the poor has latterly been placed beyond doubt. His "dishing" of the Roman Catholic Church conciliated the antipathy prejudices of England, but, like a practical statesman without prejudices, he has again nobly made up with the historic Church! He now speaks of it with just discrimination. The other day, in demanding adequate armaments and expenditure to meet the French preparations, he made a speech of great power. It was an address to all Germans and, indeed, all nations, by the greatest man of Europe, who, having made his country the greatest Power on earth, was anxious for the permanence of his achievements. It was a weighty solemn utter-

ance, its stern conclusions set off with a manly pathos. If it fell flat on his hearers, notwithstanding, statesmanship and genius could not do more. It only proves that, like the old Roman world, as sung by MATTHEW ARNOLD, the heart of the German world is "sad," that despotism, even under the best circumstances, must, specially in an advanced community, be rotten in the centre! The great Chancellor has just made another remarkable speech. It has not been reported in the British press, the more so probably because it announces the Minister's peace with the Pope, though to the credit of the religious *Guardian*, that able weekly has translated some of the most salient points. We take them at second-hand from the *Spectator*. It is not often that such a speech is heard. The French are famous speakers, with a language easily lending itself to neatness. Among Englishmen, the speeches of the late Lord BEACONSFIELD and the present Marquis of Salisbury abound in terse expression. But we must go to Spain, perhaps, to Signor CASTELLAR, for such a string of epigrams as the German Chancellor showered on his hearers.

"The Chancellor denied altogether that the Pope was a foreigner. 'He is for German Catholics a German institution.' 'My business as a diplomatist is to get friends abroad, and I should think myself injuring the interests of my country from pure national arrogance if I declined the help of so mighty a lord as the Pope, because he was a foreigner.' 'Herr Richer says I strive for a subservient majority. Well, am I to strive for a majority which wants the contrary of what I hold to be useful?' 'I should be ashamed if, in my position, I were a doctrinaire.' 'I am far from holding members of the Centre responsible for a conflict which I regard as a piece of historical evolution. I think the Empire owes much gratitude to the Centre.' As to the Evangelical Church, which complains of these concessions, 'I cannot give it equality with the Catholic Church,' for Protestant Churches are lay. 'Their centre is the congregation, not the priest.' As to the future, 'the history of the world cannot be made; but the ship of the State can be steered in mid-stream.'"

There ought to be no surprise in all this. Prince BISMARCK is not the cold coarse bully that he is too generally taken to be. He is, after all, a German statesman. Before all things, he is a German gentleman—that is, a scholar, a man who passed through the university to public life: a veritable don who has risen to be the greatest statesman of his time.

#### THE NEW ROYAL ROAD TO THE UNIVERSITY.

THOSE interested in the examinations of the Calcutta University, will have the pleasantest recollections of the Jubilee year. It is indeed a year of Jubilee to the students whose lucky turn it was to compete at this year's examinations. The number of "passes" is unprecedentedly large and makes amends enough for the rigor of previous examinations. Not that the wholesale "passes" of 1887 are an incident of the Jubilee analogous to the release of prisoners which marked its auspicious celebration. But they so strongly contrast with the general massacre of innocents in the years immediately preceding the present examination, that to the vulgar mind the coincidence may seem something more than accidental. At any rate, the unprecedentedly easy terms on which candidates for this year's examinations have been let off, whether due to the Jubilee or not, will be conveniently associated with it as an aid to future recollection. These 'passes' are already discounted in popular estimation, and it is not unlikely that in future it will be a point of enquiry if one had passed in the Jubilee year.

Nor do the results of the late examinations contrast with their predecessors only in respect of number. They have other peculiarities. In former years, those who passed in the first division were

comparatively fewer than the numbers in the second and third divisions. That this should be so, was only natural. These proportions were an index to the recognized distribution of human intelligence. The brighter intellects in any community—those where-with Messrs. ELIOT and PEDLER would constitute their proposed Teaching University—are always few and far between, while mediocre and ordinary understandings are the lot of the general. The University Examinations of former years confirmed this fact by their indications. The First Division was the place of honor to which by far the smallest number of candidates had admittance. The admissions to the second division were more numerous till the third division gave asylum to the rank and file within its ample sphere. Under the operation of the new reduced marks rule in the Entrance Examination, the numbers in the first and third divisions are reversed in their relative proportions, being the larger in the first division than in the third, while the total number of successful candidates is also about double the usual number of each single year.

These discrepancies and divergences already are leading people to ask, Has the adoption of Mr. COTTON's reduced marks rule been right? The question has been put to us, before and after the publication of the results of the examination, and it must now suggest itself to Mr. COTTON himself, we believe. The results are too good, too much out of the common not to embarrass one to whom more than any one else they are due. We do not know there has been any noticeable change in the usual rigidity of the tests with which the examination is conducted from year to year. The questions were a trifle easier, perhaps; and complaints had been heard against several of the new examiners appointed. Between these two causes, the candidates may have found an appreciable advantage. But surely they were not sufficient to bring about the very extraordinary result. Nor is it adequately explained by the suggestion which has been offered that the plucked candidates of previous years have swelled the number. There is, in each year, a certain proportion of plucked candidates who try their chance again. The percentage of this year's success should, however, set all speculation on the point at rest. That percentage is, grossly speaking, about half as much again as the percentage of normal years. And this must be owing chiefly to the action of the rules lately adopted by the Senate at the instance of Mr. COTTON, whose name and the Jubilee must ever be associated with these results.

Mr. COTTON is not without his consolation. If a far larger number have passed, all the better is this for the prospects in life of so many more young people in the country. It is only the quicker intellects, after all, that do or can go up to the top of the ladder. There are, no doubt, those who deceive themselves and delude their guardians into wasting time, energies and money in a hopeless pursuit. But, in general, the students who continue their academical course for higher examinations with zeal and to any purpose, are the cream of the year. So that the reduction of the minimum marks cannot very disadvantageously affect higher university education. As for the rest, they soon or late pass on into the world of business, and if the possession of the matriculation certificate does them any help in the starting, none need envy what does no apparent harm to any body. A portion of these might also transfer themselves to Vernacular Medical Schools or the Engineering Colleges in their Mechanical De-

partments, which would be an additional advantage by diverting a number of students to technical studies.

### THE 'LATE DISASTER.

THE Queen has telegraphed an expression of her sympathy for the sufferers from the cyclone. The Viceroy has also acted as becomes his position in hastening to convey his sympathy. Lord DUFFERIN has addressed both the Sheriff of Calcutta and the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal on the subject. The Viceroy's message to the Lieutenant-Governor deserves the widest publication as it contains a suggestion for opening a subscription:—

"In continuation of my telegram yesterday, the Lieutenant-Governor desires me to request that you will communicate to the Agents, and as far as possible to the relatives of the lost passengers by the *Sir John Lawrence*, the following message from His Excellency the Viceroy. Message begins: I cannot express to you my deep feelings of sorrow and regret at the terrible disaster which has overtaken so many families in Calcutta, through the loss of the *Sir John Lawrence*. As far as you can do so, pray convey to those who have lost friends or relatives, and to others who are sufferers, of the deepest sympathy of myself and my colleagues. If a subscription is opened, I shall, of course, be happy to contribute. Message ends. And to add an expression of Sir Stuart Bayley's deep sorrow at the affliction which has befallen these families."

The good Sheriff, however, had anticipated the idea. On receipt of the Viceroy's telegram, Sir A. WILSON, after adding expressions of his own sympathy, called on the public to join in an effort to succour the most pressing cases of distress caused by the calamity. The first subscription came from Messrs. MACNEILL & Co., who are principally engaged in the carrying trade between this port and Chandbally, and are also the owners of the *Sir John Lawrence*. The earliest disinterested giver was Mr. J. O'B. SAUNDERS, of the *Englishman*. Next to the Port Office, the steamer's Agents must bear the responsibility for what has happened. In the first excitement of widespread sorrow and bewilderment, Messrs. MACNEILL and Co. must come in for reproaches from the surviving friends of the drowned beings, and what must exasperate their feelings is the inability of the firm to furnish a list of the passengers. Another incident in this sad connection which has been reported, is the providential escape against themselves, of some 80 passengers who were landed some way down, because they could not pay the increased fare which the Company's officers demanded with the object of relieving the vessel of the excess number of passengers, as also, no doubt, of turning the occasion to the best account. These passengers who were sent down from the vessel must have bewailed their lot at the time, and cursed the cruelty of the management. But this cruelty was, in God's inscrutable providence, the saving of their lives. These passengers, thus providentially saved, were of course the poorer portion, but still the uncertainty as to who they are, increases the suspense in which the surviving friends of many are involved. They still allow themselves to hope against hope that after all the lost might return.

Another painful peculiarity of this disaster is its being confined for the most part to the female sex, both old and young. Many respectable families in Calcutta and its vicinity have been made desolate. The misfortune has befallen with special heaviness upon the Shabbabazar Rajbari which in an evil hour was tempted by the cheapness of this popular mode of transport to crowd the *Sir John Lawrence's* deck with its members and inmates and relations to the number of 33, none of whom has survived the disaster. Chief among them was the Rani of the late Raja APURVA KRISHNA BAHADOOR, mother of Kumar KUMAR KRISHNA. A domesticated son-in-law of the same family who holds a responsible office in the High Court, has lost his poor widowed daughter. Baboo TARAN DEB's father is missing, so is JIVAN DEB's sister. Another family of two brothers, Baboos BIJAY and BINAY KRISHNA GHOSH, has been simply crushed. BINAY having a wife only but no issue, the bulk of the household consisted of his brother's family, namely BIJAY's wife, daughter, son-in-law, &c. All these including BINAY's wife had been shipped to Pooree on board the ill-fated steamer, and none is alive to tell the tale of woe. The desolation of the poor brothers may be better conceived than described. The other Rajbari (house of the late Sir RADHA KANTA Bahadur) has lost one important member in one of the grand daughters of the late Raja, daughter of Kumar DEBENDRA NARAYAN and sister of the lamented BROJENDRA NARAYAN DEB. In fact, Shabbabazar is the worst sufferer of all quarters. Perhaps the most heart-rending case in that locality is the bereavement of a poor Brahman whose wife had been wheedled out on this pilgrimage of ill omen. This wife was the only breadwinner in the house. She supported not only herself but her husband and his children by lending herself to the devotions and

charity of the Kayastha ladies of the neighbourhood. And now she is gone—rudely taken away from him—he is in despair. There is no body to nurse him or look after the children or cook for the family or procure provisions for them, or provide for the rents or taxes. The well-known solicitor Baboo N. C. BOSE'S cousin, RAMESWAR has lost his maternal aunt. Baboo KALLY PROSUNNO DEY, the projector of the *National Magazine*, has lost his mother-in-law and a paternal and a maternal aunt. Baboo GOVIND CHUNDER DUTT of Hathkola was also a passenger and has not been heard of. These are all Kayasthas, and it is on the families of this respectable caste who form the bulk of the Bhadracrahy of the metropolis, that the blow has chiefly fallen. Among Brahmans, the worst sufferer is Baboo ANNADA CHATTERJEA, a confidential employee of the Jaun Bazar family. The unfortunate man has no body left to mourn with him. Verily, he is reduced to the cry of desperation, in the Poet's language, I am

left of all my tribe

Nor man, nor child, nor thing of living birth ;

No ! not the dog, that watched my household hearth,

Escaped that night of death, upon the sea !

All perished !—I alone am left on earth !

To whom nor relative nor blood remains,

No !—not a kindred drop that runs in human veins !

If so many as eighty passengers had to be turned out on the way, there must have been overcrowding on board. The absence of list of passengers at the port of embarkation is not only a great defect in itself, but is symptomatic of graver irregularities. The port arrangements must be of a primitive simplicity where a great vessel may go to sea unchallenged with a multitudinous living human freight. It reminds one of the Oordoo description of the imperial trunk road on which the traveller might go on his journey exposing gold with nobody to ask how many teeth had he in his head. But the analogy is only in seeming. There is the same freedom from inquiry without anything like the absolute protection of the traveller implied in the Oordoo phrase.

Though the poor men and women who did not submit to the further demand of the vessel's officers were thereby saved from drowning in her, yet the demand was not only unlawfully extortionate but, under the circumstances, peculiarly harsh. Again, it is universally believed that the vessel was sacrificed to the rashness of the Commander. It has to be explained why there were no signals to warn him against making for the sea, in such a vessel, in such weather, with the certainty of a cyclone before him. But the absence of such warning practically mattered not to such an experienced seaman. The man's proficiency and pluck evidently betrayed him. Doubtless his miraculous escape in the same Bay during a previous cyclone when, after four days, during which he was supposed lost, he appeared at Madras, tempted him. But alas ! miracles do not repeat themselves like humdrum history, or else we might still hope that our relations and friends might be living in some lonely shore or savage island to which her old tar had led the *Sir John Lawrence*. It is better, perhaps, for the poor man himself, under the circumstances, that he is *non est*. For, clearly, no "ovation" awaits him for all his heroic struggle with wind and water—no sympathy for all he has suffered or for his terrible anxiety. On the contrary, if he turned up, he would be met by a worse storm on land. It would be a leap from the frying pan to the fire to put himself in the power of an exasperated public after escaping from the fury of the elements. But he has in a manner anticipated the justice of the world. Indeed, he has executed on himself a severer punishment than the harshest human persecution would have, in these days of mildness, thought of. Like another Captain (though not commander) on land, who led rather less than the same number to unnecessary destruction, he did as the impulse of the moment dictated, and failing in his end, he would not stay to answer questions—perchance the silly questions of the ignorant or the mischievous questions of the evil disposed. Like Captain NOLAN, of bloody Balaclava memory, he paid the penalty of his rashness with his own life. Perhaps, having sacrificed so many innocent men, women and children, he could not in honour live. Anyhow, he is now beyond the reach of human vengeance. May his Maker be merciful to him !

We trust the Government will institute all necessary inquiries possible under the circumstances. The possibility of repetition of such a calamity must be precluded for ever. And we must have satisfactory grounds to be able to hope that another such accident will not take place. Surely, after such a sacrifice, there ought to be no more excuse

for maintaining the present system. Surely, seven-hundred blacks are equal to a white Bishop—the loss of such a dignity of the Church being with the British the *sine qua non* of reform.

## INDIA'S TRUE FRIENDS

AND

## INDIA'S REAL ENEMIES.

How little the people of this country are capable of recognizing their true friends, has been clearly demonstrated by the outpourings of the greater part of the Native Press and their laudation of the Liberal and Radical politicians of England, simply because some few of them, as a *coup de théâtre* and for the sake of effect, chose to take their Native champions by the hand and pretend to help them to obtain a seat in the Parliament of Great Britain. Amongst those who did help these deluded Indians, there may have been one or two, at the utmost, who acted in accordance with their conviction, but as to the greater number of those who supported Mr. Lal Mohan Ghose and Mr. Naoroji, I feel assured that they simply did so for what we call stage effect. Amongst the various members of the English Press who supported the Indian candidates, if I am not very much mistaken, is the *World* newspaper, one of the principal mouth-pieces of the Liberals. Yet when a serious charge is made against a member of the Covenanted Civil Service, such as the charge made by Mr. Sham Rao against Mr. Wilson and one which was proved to the honest convictions of a Commission of Englishmen duly appointed to inquire into it, not only the *Pioneer* but a comparatively respectable paper like the *World*, following in its wake, tried its best to draw a veil over these iniquitous proceedings and proceeded to throw dust into the eyes of its readers, so that they may in all probability misunderstand and misinterpret some of the real and most important points of the case.

Here is one of the statements made by the *World* which speaks for the truth of the rest—one put forward with such unblushing effrontery as would naturally mislead those of the English public who are not thoroughly acquainted with Indian manners and customs. It runs thus : "A far more important fact is that the Dewan's daughter was a married woman ; that she in truth had been a married woman for ten years and hence according to the rapid computation of the East she was to all intents and purposes an old woman" According to English ideas and the train of English reasoning the *World* would lead its readers to surmise and believe that as in England, the Dewan's daughter must have been married at the age of 18 or 20, so that when Mr. Wilson sent his one-armed Mallee to her father with his improper proposals, Mr. Sham Rao's daughter could not really as a fact have been about 17 years of age, the very prime of Indian womanhood. Let the public remember that Mr. Sham Rao was a Brahman and, in accordance with the custom of his caste, he was, if a poor man, bound to marry his daughter before she was 10 years of age, if he was rich before 7. Accordingly, the fact of her being a married woman for ten years would just have brought her up to her prime in life, and of this fact Mr. Wilson must have been quite aware when he made his disgraceful overtures.

Dishonest and one-sided journalism, such as we have here pointed out, should be as much scouted and discredited as an individual would be who was known to his friends as a proverbial liar. I remember once being in Lady Canning's room when her cousin and A. D. C. young Stanley was mentioning something reported in a daily paper as a fact of unquestionable authenticity, saying he had seen it in a newspaper. Lady Canning, with admirable satire replied, Stanley ! Stanley ! do you believe everything you see in newspapers ?

The Liberals and Radicals of England are no true friends to India. They cannot afford to be so, for be it always remembered that it is principally from these classes the ranks of the Covenanted Civil Service are recruited.

When Lord Randolph Churchill first suggested and started the idea of a Commission to enquire closely into the government of the Indian Empire, he perceived as soon as the Conservatives were



thrown out of power, that although the Liberals did not dare to let so important a suggestion drop, it was their intention to make of the real business of the Commission a simple farce, and if it had been carried out in the manner the Liberals wished it to be, it would have turned out a fiasco. He for the time being abandoned it therefore only with the object of bringing it forward again immediately he was in power, and we have all seen what a searching enquiry has been made into every branch of the Government, much to the disgust of the Covenanted Civil Service. Amongst all the English statesmen of the present day, I know no one who is a truer friend to India than Lord Randolph Churchill. Time will shew that this assertion of mine is perfectly true. Lord Randolph came to India and saw for himself the haughty manner many, nay most, of the civilians treated respectable landholders and native gentlemen in their districts. Let India remember a single fact and never forget it. Let it always be held before the eyes of her real statesmen and well-wishers. It was a Liberal who formulated the phrase "Perish India."

Such being the case, India never will and never can obtain justice and fairplay when men are in power whose sons and friends form the principal ruling class of this country. In my former remarks on the Cambay case, I told three amusing anecdotes concerning the ways of some of the officials of this country. I will now add another. I dare say the gentleman who was the principal actor in the scene and who is now in a high official position in India, will recognize the sketch.

A certain Mahomedan gentleman brought a case against a neighbour, concerning a window which overlooked his premises and a water pipe which discharged the water from the roof of the adjoining tenement on to his ground. His lawyer, one of the ablest in India, pointed out distinctly that neither the window nor the pipe was of recent construction and that in fact he had really no case at all. But, said he to his client, "Are you prepared to lay out a decent sum of money to gain your object and your case?" He replied "I don't care what I spend, I must have the one shut up and the other removed. My *izzat* is at stake." "Very well," replied the lawyer, "I know the failing of the presiding Judge. Just you get a handsome young woman, she must have really good black hair and plenty of it. I will get the Judge to come and view the premises himself and the young woman must act her part."

On the next hearing of the suit, the lawyer easily persuaded the Judge in the cause of justice to inspect the premises and he would see for himself the reasonableness of the complainant's cause of action. When the day for viewing the premises came, the lawyer attended with the Judge. On entering the courtyard he pointed out to him the window and the water pipe and said "here is a pencil and paper, you can make a sketch which will greatly aid you in forming your own conclusions and in writing your judgment, I will wait outside till you have done, as it is beastly close in here," and he went out.

No sooner was the door closed than a young woman of about 17 or 18, with her beautiful black hair disheveled as if in grief, stepped forward and bowed her head to his feet and said that unless his Lordship helped his poor servant, her *izzat* was gone and her peace of mind. If the window was not walled up, her neighbour or his sons and friends could invade her privacy, a Mahomedan lady a *pardah-nasheen*, whenever they chose, and what was more, they could if they liked, pour all kinds of unmentionable filth through the waterspout into her court-yard. The Judge, fetched by the long black hair, raised her up, and in so doing the *chaddur* got disarranged from her face disclosing a beautiful and expressive countenance with tear-drops quivering on long black eye-lashes. In reply to her petition, he said he would carefully enquire into the case in all its bearings. That very evening the Judge's confidential bearer attended at the home with an *ekka* and conveyed the young woman to the Judge's private residence, as he the Judge wished to make some further private enquiries concerning the rights of the case. Need I say that

a decree was eventually given in favor of the plaintiff? I even know the Judge's name but with that the public has no business. As I said before, perhaps he will, on perusing this, remember the circumstances of this sketch.

ANDREW HEARSEY.

#### A BENGALI POETESS.\*

THE muse of the lady writer of *Kabitahar* which was reviewed at some length in *Mookerjee's Magazine* and other periodicals some years ago, has not been idle. She has given another proof of her powers, and *Bharata Kusama*, (Indian Flowers—of Poesy) of which an advertisement has been appearing in this journal, has rather too long been lying on our table. For this apparent neglect, we apologise to the authoress, although the compliment she has paid in dedicating the work to us made the grateful task of reviewing it in our columns one of some delicacy. The more is this the case, as it is impossible to speak of the work except in terms of high praise. Some of the poems originally appeared in high class Vernacular periodicals like the *Arya Darsan* and the *Bunga Darsan*, which fact in itself is no small testimony to their merits. Others are productions of her girlhood, which, good in their way, are, like her maiden work, *Kabitahar*, still more interesting for the promise of future excellence which has been realized. What constitutes a special merit of the ever-unhappy poetess, now cast out of all hope in this world by the death of her valetudinarian lord, is the fact of her owing little to others for the culture she has attained. Belonging to the most respectable rank of Hindu Society, both on her father's and father-in-law's side, immured in the *Zenana*, and never having even the advantage of the foreign *Zenana* teaching, the progress of her mind has chiefly been her own work, being only the easy development of considerable natural gifts. And a gem of a woman is she, in the perspicacity and delicacy of her mind, the richness of her fancy, and above all the purity of her life and conversation. And a true representative Hindu lady in her cheerful spirit of sacrifice. It is much to be regretted that the merit of *Bharata Kusama* has received but scant encouragement from the public.

The book has been edited by Baboo Mohindra Nath Roy, sub-editor of the *Arya Darsan* and author of the *Lives of Hahnemann* and Aukhoy Kumar Dutt in Bengali. Considering the difficulties of a *zenana* lady's appearance in print, Baboo Roy has, by kindly seeing this work through the press, done a public service.

#### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 28th May 1887.—Baboo Srinath Bhudder, Deputy Collector, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector, under section 4 of Act VII (B.C.) of 1880, in the district of Chittagong, in the place of Baboo Gobinda Chandra Bysack, Deputy Collector, who will be relieved of this work.

The 1st June 1887.—Mr. J. A. Hopkins, c.s., reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 20th March 1887.

Mr. A. W. B. Power, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Shahabad, is allowed leave for two months and sixteen days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 5th July 1887, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

The 3rd June 1887.—Mr. G. E. Porter, Judicial Commissioner, Chota Nagpore, is allowed furlough for two years, under section 50, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 23rd August 1887.

Mr. F. W. R. Cowley, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Midnapore, is appointed to act as Judicial Commissioner of Chota Nagpore, during the absence, on furlough, of Mr. G. E. Porter, or until further orders.

The 6th June 1887.—Mr. H. W. C. Carnduff, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serajgunge, Pubna, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that sub-division.

Mr. C. R. Marriott, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that district.

Baboo Madhuv Lal, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, in charge of the Gya Distillery, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

\* Pundit Udit Narain is appointed to act as a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, and is placed in charge of the Gya Distillery during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Madhuv Lal, or until further orders.

\* *Bharata Kusama*. By a Hindu Lady. Edited by Mahendra Nath Ray. Calcutta, 1289 Beng.

The 7th June 1887.—Mr. R. C. Sterndale, Officiating Cantonment Magistrate of Dum-Dum, acted as Cantonment Magistrate of Barrackpore and Judge of the Small Cause Court in that Cantonment from the 10th March to the 5th April 1887, in addition to his own duties.

JUDICIAL.—The 31st May 1887.—Baboo Nirod Nath Banerjee, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Manbhoom, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

The 3rd June 1887.—Baboo Jogendro Nath Mukerjee, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Backergunge, to be ordinarily stationed at Perozapore, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Bidhu Bhusan Chuckerbutty, or until further orders, with effect from the date on which he joins his appointment.

The 4th June 1887.—Baboo Sarat Chandra Das, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

Baboo Petamber Banerjee, Sub-Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

The 6th June 1887.—Baboo Mohendra Nath Mitter, Judge of the Courts of Small Causes, Dacca and Munshigunge, is allowed leave for one month, under section 73-1 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 22nd March last.

GRANT OF LEAVE TO MUNSIFS.—The 30th May 1887.—Baboo Bimola Churn Mozumdar, Munsif of Jamui, in the district of Bhagulpore, is allowed leave for one month and four days, viz., one month and two days under section 73, rules 2 and 3, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, and the remaining two days under section 73, rule 1 of the same Code, with effect from the 4th February last, in supersession of the leave granted to him on the 26th January 1887.

The 2nd June 1887.—Baboo Har Nath Ghose, Munsif of Sitakund, in the district of Chittagong, transferred to Noakhally, is allowed leave for six months, under section 128, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 19th January last.

The 3rd June 1887.—Baboo Behari Lal Banerjee, First Munsif of Bagirhat, in the district of Jessore, is allowed leave for three weeks, under section 73, rule 1, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 25th April last.

The 6th June 1887.—Baboo Gopal Chunder Banerji, Munsif of Pingna, in the district of Mymensingh, is allowed leave for two months and 15 days, under sections 128 and 141, chapter X of the

Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave for three months granted to him on the 31st January last.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

### THE HEALTH OF THE TOWN AND THE CORPORATION.

SIR,—You have hardly forgotten, I think, that, a few months ago, when there was a serious outbreak of Cholera in the town, the Municipality, on the recommendation of Dr. Simpson, appointed four medical gentlemen, to afford relief to the suffering poor. You are no doubt aware what valuable services they did. Since their appointment, the disease, though not totally disappeared, began to decrease considerably. Before then, hardly a week passed without carrying away hundreds of lives; but now, as the report shows, the death rate per week has been reduced to a third of the previous number. In spite of such satisfactory result, the services of these doctors have been dispensed with since the 31st last. I do not know the exact reason why; but I hear from a very reliable source that it is due simply to want of funds. I confess I find it difficult to credit this, and I don't think any right thinking man will take the explanation as at all satisfactory. It was only the other day that the Municipality paid a lac\* of Rupee towards fireworks and illuminations, and without any grudge whatever. Again, a few days ago, some thousands were sanctioned to be paid over to the engineers by way of *bonus*. Thus, if such a vast sum of money can be wasted in such trifling and frivolous matters, can not something, I say, a few hundreds only, be spent to save the precious lives of hundreds and hundreds? Is pyrotechnics more valuable than human lives? The pay of the doctors is very small, only Rs. 100 a month each. Cannot the Municipality afford to pay monthly this paltry sum of Rs. 400? The press never treats Dr. Simpson with a sparing hand. But what can he do, if his suggestions are not carried out? His views are not at all unpractical. On the contrary, so far as they have been tried, they have already quite served the desired purposes. Whose fault is it then, but of the Commissioners themselves, if disease now makes ravages among the population?

KISSORY NATHA MITRA.

Calcutta, 1st June, 1887.

\* Only Rs. 15,000.—ED. R. & R.

## NOTICE.

Persons in possession of Carriages, Horses, Ponies or Mules as may have been kept within the town during the half year ended March, 1887, and who have not as yet taken out Licenses for the same, are requested to do so at once under Sections 66 and 67 of Act IV (B.C.) of 1876, and Sections 4 and 5 of Act I of 1882, according to the Schedule quoted below for general information. All applications for Licenses should be accompanied with the amount payable and addressed to the undersigned.

By order,  
R. CHATTERJEE,  
License Officer.

### SCHEDULE.

Per Half-year.

Rs. As. P.

For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by two horses	12	0	0
If more than one such carriage, then for every such carriage after the first, two-thirds of the above rate	8	0	0
For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by one horse, or pony or mule, or a pair of ponies or mules under thirteen hands	6	0	0
If more than one such carriage, then for every such carriage, after the first, two-thirds of the above rate	4	0	0
For every two-wheeled carriage	6	0	0
For every horse (not a race horse) pony, or mule	6	0	0
For every race horse	12	0	0
For every pony or mule under thirteen hands	2	0	0

NOTE.—Animals under eleven hands in height and carriages, the wheels of which do not exceed twenty-four inches in diameter, are exempted.

Signature and Residence.

## CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Sealed Tenders will be received up to 2 P. M. on the 13th June, 1887, for the supply of 200,000 cubic feet well-pugged and well-burnt Jhama Khao, broken so as to pass freely through a ring 2½ inches in diameter, to be delivered by the 31st March, 1888, properly stacked, at the Municipal Depôts at Bagbazar, Nimtollah, and along the Circular Road foot-path, as may be directed.

2. If stacking along Circular Road is directed, the Municipal waggons will be made available for carriage to the Depôts, and the Jhama will in that case be unloaded at the cost of the Commissioners.

3. Tenders are to be superscribed "Tender for Jhama Khao," and each tender may be for the whole quantity or any portion of it not less than 50,000 cubic feet, and must be accompanied by Rs. 10 per cent. as earnest-money, which will be returned in case the tender is not accepted.

4. The successful tenderer must sign a deed of contract duly stamped and registered at his own expense, and leave the earnest-money in the hands of the Corporation as security for due fulfilment of contract.

5. The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

6. Any further information required may be obtained on application.

7. Tenders will be opened by the Vice-Chairman at 2-15 P. M., on the same day, in the presence of tenderers who may wish to attend.

UDOY NARAIN SINGHA,  
Superintendent of Stores.

## NOTICE

Is hereby given that, under Sections 66 and 67 of Act IV (B. C.) of 1876 and Sections 4 and 5 of Act I of 1882, Licenses for carriages, Horses, Ponies, or Mules kept within the town for the half year commencing from 1st April 1887 and ending in September 1887 should be taken out without any further delay according to the Schedule given below. To avoid mistakes, persons applying for Licenses who do not keep their carriages or horses at the place where the application is written, are requested to note the place or places where they keep their conveyances and horses. Persons failing to take out Licenses will render themselves liable to the penalties of the law. All applications for Licenses should be accompanied with the amount payable and addressed to the undersigned.

By Order,  
R. CHATTERJEE,  
License Officer.

### SCHEDULE.

Per Half-year.

Rs. A. P.

For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by two horses	12	0	0
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For every horse (not a race horse) pony, or mule	6	0	0
For every race horse	12	0	0
For every pony or mule under thirteen hands	2	0	0

NOTE.—Animals under eleven hands in height and carriages, the wheels of which do not exceed twenty-four inches in diameter, are exempted.

Signature and Residence.

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT).

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1887.

No. 278

## A COMMEMORATION ODE.

BY A FORMER POET LAUREATE.

DEDICATED TO THE QUEEN-EMPRESS-MOTHER,  
AS A HUMBLE JUBILEE OFFERING OF

REIS & RAYYET.

Queen of the Seas, enlarge thyself !  
Redundant as thou art of life and power,  
Be thou the hive of nations,  
And send by swarms abroad !  
Send them like Greece of old,  
With arts and science to enrich  
The uncultivated earth ;  
But with more precious gifts than Greece or Tyre,  
Or Elder Egypt, to the world bequeath'd ;  
Just laws, and rightful polity,  
And, crowning all, the dearest boon of Heaven,  
Its word and will reveal'd.

Queen of the Seas, enlarge thyself,  
Send thou thy swarms abroad !  
For in the years to come,  
Though centuries or millenniums intervene,  
Where'er thy progeny,  
Thy language, and thy spirit shall be found,  
If on Ontario's shores,  
Or in that Austral world long sought,  
The many-isled Pacific, ... yea where waves,  
Now breaking over coral reefs, affright  
The venturous mariner,  
When islands shall have grown, and cities risen

In cocoa groves embower'd ; ...  
Where'er thy language lives,  
By whatsoever name the land be call'd,  
The land is English still.  
Thrones fall, and Dynasties are changed ;  
Empires decay and sink  
Beneath their own unwieldy weight ;  
Dominion passeth like a cloud away :  
The imperishable mind  
Survives all meaner things.

## The Week.

THE 21st June, the Jubilee Day for England, will be observed as a close holiday in Bengal, and the other Presidencies. Royal Salutes will be fired at all the military stations.

In jubilation of the auspicious occasion, the Queen has been pleased to grant free pardon to all Naval and Military prisoners for desertion and minor offences.

RAI BAHADOOR THANAKOI MOODELIAR of Arcot, Madras, has offered Rs. 20,000 for a Jubilee memorial.

THE British Colony in China has given a substantial proof of its appreciation of the press. They have just passed in Hong Kong an Act to amend the law relating to Jurors. The Editors of daily papers and their staff have been exempted from service.

We read—

"In a recent lecture, Prof. William Turner, of Edinburgh University, gave the speed of the Greenland whale as nine or ten miles an hour, and that of the great finner whale as probably twelve miles. One of the latter animals was stranded on a British coast some years ago, and was found to have a length of eighty feet, a weight of seventy four tons, and a width of tail of eighteen to twenty feet. With these data, the builder of the Anchor Line steamships calculated that, in order to attain a speed of twelve miles an hour, this whale must have exercised a propelling force of one hundred and forty five horse-power."

If Faith cannot in this Age literally remove mountains, it can yet sacrifice a finger from the living body to the object of its attentions. Nor is it necessary that that object should be a rational being or a spirit of good or evil, Supreme Creator or the Universal Soul. It may be any savage Fetish or vague abstraction or a mere word beginning with a capital letter like "Humanity," or it may be nothing in particular, or even the great terrible Nothing. Or else, how could Buddhism, the creed of negation, fill the world with its monuments of faith and sacrifice? A modern Buddhist has just proved the point to the letter. The other day a Burman, accompanied by a couple of wives, went to worship at a shrine. While all three were engaged deep in their prayers, the younger member of the firm of wives was seized with a religious fit, as was placed beyond question, when she quickly seized a knife and cut off her right hand forefinger, and placed it on the shrine.

THE *People's Friend* has an excellent article on the startling ebullition of temper shown by the Governor of Bombay in his reply to the representation of certain highly respectable citizens on the Liquor Traffic and Government connection therewith. It is appropriately headed "The Bombay Government in a Huff," the impersonal governing direction being obviously intended for the personal head. Lord REAY is represented as the new broom which, after verifying the proverb, has exhausted itself. We suppose it is now reduced to a bundle of sharp-pointed bristles.

A RANGOON telegram dated 15th June, in the *Englishman*, says :—

"A party of the 3rd Madras Light Cavalry with 45 Burmese police men have just fought what may fairly be described as the most desperate engagement which has yet taken place in Upper Burma. They completely surprised a very large body of dakaites near Kyoukpadoung

on favourable ground for Cavalry operations. At the first onslaught the enemy broke and fled in hopeless confusion, leaving 193 dead on the field. Subadar Mahomed Aulum commanded. This gang came from Popa hills, and has given great trouble frequently avoiding attack, but this crushing defeat should put an end to it. Jemadar Iyed Ashim commanding an escort on the road to Meiktila, twenty miles from Myingyan whilst some little distance from his men observed a dakait preparing to shoot. Jemadar fired and the dakait bolted. The Jemadar pursued, and in a few minutes suddenly found himself amongst nineteen more dakaites, who were as much astonished as himself. Five of the dakaites instantly bolted. The Jemadar maintaining his presence of mind ordered the others to lay down their arms. Supposing his men were close behind they obeyed. The Jemadar then made one of them carry the arms and marched in the whole fifteen as prisoners. Two hundred dakaites under Boh Cho, a noted leader, attacked a newly established police post at Dhaltan on the 10th instant, but were repulsed. One of the Burmese policemen and his family, who were in the village, were butchered."

THE following is going the round :—

"His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore has been grossly assaulted and beaten, by the Saravani, the 'Palace Manager'; the public service of Travancore, from top to bottom, is becoming utterly demoralized by this Saravani, who is given to the indiscriminate exaction and acceptance of bribes all round, so much so that no appointment in Travancore, now-a-days, can be obtained without first satisfying the rapacious avarice of this dangerous individual. One official on Rs. 1,000 per month has been able to pay off debts amounting to Rs. 50,000 in one year."

Bravo! Saravani! thou goest beyond the *Zubberdustest* political.

By an order in the *Gazette*, Nos. 40, 42, 43 and 44 of the Scheduled Embankments or portions of them, of the lengths of 23 miles and 4,060 feet, 18 miles and 11 miles, 17½ miles, and 3 miles 2,528 feet, respectively, in the Midnapore District, are excluded from Schedule D, Bengal Act VI of 1873. In other words, the Government relieves itself of the cost of their maintenance, they being unnecessary for the public interest.

THE following information gathered from recent sources bears upon the prospects of trade between Burma and Yunnan. Yunnan is an elevated plateau 4,000 to 8,000 feet above the sea, and exhibits, as compared with Burma, a great difference of climate and productions. Yunnan will not grow cotton, tobacco, or tea, for instance—necessities to China. Tobacco comes at present from Ssu-chuan and the Kwang provinces, and tea from the Shan States outside Ssu Mao, but the supply of the latter is insufficient, even at present, and the people of South Yunnan drink all sorts of decoctions in its stead. Salt is produced in many parts of Yunnan, but the supply is insufficient, and there should be an increasing import from Bhamo, as the Western parts of the province fill up.

Burmese cotton at present comes as far east as Yunnan Fer.

Western Yunnan is richer than the Eastern part of the Province bordering on Tonquin, and is being populated more quickly and by a more vigorous race; and there are prospects of a profitable expansion of trade in that direction.—Press Commissioner.

THE Gaekwar has been pleased to abolish all transit duties in his State.

THE titles of 'Khan Sahib' and 'Khan Bahadur' have been conferred respectively on Munshi ALLAH BAKSH of the Afghan Boundary Commission and ALI GAUHAR KHAN, Khan of Agror.

THE French Crown Jewels have been put to the hammer. The place was the Salle des Etats, and the auctioneer M. ESCRIBES' desk stood on the exact spot which the throne of the last Emperor used to occupy at the opening of the legislative sessions. We take the following account of the first day's sale from an English paper :—

"Around the auctioneer were two inspectors and two sub-inspectors of the Domains Department. Ten lots were to be sold, when the first was set up a spectator cried 'The corpse of Monarchy is going to feed the worms.' This lot consisted of two ball-headed hairpins. The pair of balls were studded with 380 brilliants, weighing 150 carats. It was put up at 35,000 francs, and, after the bidding had dragged a good deal, was knocked down to a M. Alfred Dutrelong, a Belgian manufacturer, for 35,000 francs. He paid the money and at once put away his freshly acquired relic into his breast pocket. The two beautiful shoulder knots were then divided into two lots, and a M. Goldschmidt and a M. Dorne obtained them for 39,000 francs apiece. They were cheap, containing as they did 71 brilliants, some of which were very fine and weighing a little over 145 carats. The setting was lovely. One of these shoulder knots belonged to the Queen of Louis XV.; the other was made since her death to match it. Lot 3

was described as aiguillettes with fastening clasps in the Marie Antoinette style, and worn by her at the coronation of Louis Seize. The former contained 222 brilliants of a weight of 125 carats and the fastenings 59 brilliants of 18 carats. All this went to a M. Bonvinge for 25,100 francs. No. 4 was a dismantled lot of three rose diamonds and 522 brilliants of 129 carats. The ladies in the background sighed when they saw a knot and pair of tassels knocked down to Schlesinger Brothers at 42,200 francs. It contained in a very elegant setting and arranged with beautiful flexibility 2,438 brilliants of 136¾ carats. M. Dutrelout, after more animated bidding than there had been, obtained a large ring diamond, surrounded with brilliants, and weighing a fraction over 40 carats, for 16,000 francs. No. 7, a crescent, with 89 brilliants and weighing a fraction over 40 carats, was obtained by the Schlesingers for 21,400 francs. The eighth lot was a pendant ornament for a hairpin, and was adjudged to M. Dutrelout for 17,000 francs.

This was thought a good bargain for the purchaser, who, it was whispered, represented the Duc d'Aumale. There were in this ornament 477 brilliants, of 66 carats, and 100 roses. The seven stars, in Lot 9, were divided into seven lots, and fell to seven Palais Royal jewellers. Tiffany, of New York, obtained the necklace composed of four rows, and a clasp of padlock form. There were eight brilliants of 9 carats in the clasp. One of the rows was composed of 33 brilliants of 55½ carats; the second of 45 brilliants of 74½ carats; the third of 57 brilliants of 96½ carats, and the fourth of 79 brilliants of 127½ carats. They were all knocked down at 123,000 francs. It appears that cheap as this seemed to those who watched the sale it exceeded greatly the expectations of the auctioneers and experts. To-day's sale brought in a total of 20,240."

PROFESSOR VULPIAN, member and life Secretary of the Academy of Sciences, is dead. He was one of the warmest advocates of the Pasteurian method. In fact, M. PASTEUR took his opinion before inoculating the virus of rabies on man.

GENERAL LANGIEWICZ, one of the two organizers of the Polish Revolution of 1863 and Dictator of the Polish Forces, is no more. On his release in 1864 from prison at Cracow, he went over to Turkey, to enter the Ottoman army, but had to take to horses—which he reared and sold.

WE read in an Odessa Correspondence :—

"The Russian Bankruptcy Court here continues to be blocked by the insolvency cases of a number of old-established and hitherto flourishing concerns. The calendar of this tribunal has been heavier during the last six months than at any period since the Russo-Turkish war, and many houses which weathered that storm are now gradually collapsing. The principals of several Russian houses think that a war would be infinitely preferable to general commercial interests than the protracted strain of the present position. Exchange on England is at a positively ruinous depreciation. The commercial world of Russia looks in vain for any measure of relief from the Ministry. The Council of the Empire at present does not possess one man of financial ability."

THEY have proposed an Anti-Corn Law League in Germany. The New Liberal party of the Reichstag is about to organize meetings and distribute pamphlets to provoke an agitation against the raising of the corn duty. The League will of course have a newspaper of its own. But who is their CORDEN?

A BRONZE statue of heroic size of President GARFIELD has been unveiled at Washington by the veterans of the army of the Cumberland which he commanded during the war.

IT is decided to connect the rivers Duna and Dnieper, in order to connect Riga on the Baltic with Kremenshug on the Dnieper, one of the principal military centres of the South.

MR. G. A. SALA lectured at the St. James' Hall on "What I saw in Australia and New Zealand."

A CORRESPONDENT telegraphs to the *Mirror* :—

"MYMENSINGH, 16TH JUNE.  
Mymensingh is full of sensational cases. Moulvi Fazlul Karim, the Deputy Magistrate of Netrokona, has been summoned by Mr. Glazier, the Magistrate, on a charge of adultery. The Jubilee prosecutions are going on at Tangail as at Jamalpore. Babu Shoshi Shekhar Dutt, the Deputy Magistrate of Tangail, is said to have wanted 2,500 rupees from Srimatti Jahnvi Chowdhurany, the Zemindar, on account of the Jubilee, but she celebrated the Jubilee in her own house and offered Rs. 200 only to the Deputy Magistrate, which was refused. All her chief *Amlas* have been appointed Special Constables, and prosecutions have been going on."

HERE is a short sweet song, instinct with truth and tenderness, culled from an English paper :—

"If words were not so weak  
To tell our best thoughts, dear,  
Then I might speak,  
And you might hear.

If Earth were not so bleak,  
Our roses might not die,—  
And I might seek  
And find you nigh.

You found, what should I seek?  
You mine, what should I need  
To make this bleak  
Earth Heaven indeed?

PAKENHAM BEATTY."

With what slender materials has the writer worked! Here is true poetry. We all feel it. And yet proceed to analyse, and they all escape your mighty but rude crucible! Such is the magic of Poesy!

THIS is going the round of the press throughout the globe—showing with how little memory its conductors instruct mankind :—

"On the evening after the battle of Gravelotte, on the trumpet signal for the roll-call of the Life Guards, more than three hundred riderless horses, some of them wounded and hobbling on three legs, answered the well-known sounds, and mustered with the remnant of their regiment."

That is an old, old story. So far as it is founded on fact, history was last repeated at Gravelotte. The world was told at the time of horses without riders or with riders without heads on their shoulders marching to the sound of bugles from mere force of habit. With the lapse of time the number of the good steeds and the spectre knights and troopers have naturally increased.

THE Municipal Councilors of Bombay continue to press their rights against the Executive. At a recent meeting of the Town Council they carried after a protracted discussion a resolution to the following effect. That the head executive should furnish—

"The members of the Council with a quarterly return showing the gross income and expenditure of the Municipality, under the chief heads during each quarter of the current year as compared with items for the corresponding quarter of the previous year; the various grants sanctioned during the year by the Corporation out of the surplus cash balance, over and above those passed in the regular budget for the current year, and the nature and urgency of such grants; the amount of surplus cash balance at the end of each quarter."

We have excluded from the motion as it was proposed by Mr. JAVERILAL UMIASHUNKER YAJNIK, one clause which was not agreed to and which related to a return being furnished of the excess revenue from the consolidated rate, if any, due to the expansion of the city. There is no matter on which the Bombay community, official as well as nonofficial, is more keen just now than that of the consolidated rate.

A RAY of light into the dark side of life in Protestant England!

"The third annual report of the London Society for the prevention of Cruelty to Children states that over 290 cases of brutality have been dealt with during the last twelve months. Not a few of the worst culprits are now undergoing sentences of imprisonment and penal servitude. In some of the cases the parents deliberately compassed the deaths of their children for the sake of gain. In one instance recorded in the report, a little girl five years old was systematically starved and exposed to cold by her mother, with the object of getting an insurance of £7."

The struggle for existence must be desperate, indeed!

THE late MICHAEL MODHUSUDAN DUTT left two sons and one daughter, the youngest of whom ALBERT now survives. He is at present a student at St. Xavier's, studying for the F. A. He passed the Entrance in the 1st Grade and holds a scholarship. He was born at Versailles. He is naturally anxious to complete his education in Europe. Having no means of his own, living and growing since his father's death on others' charity, he appeals to his countrymen for sufficient help for the purpose. He may not be a genius like his father, but he bears that honored name and is therefore entitled to legitimate indulgence at our hands.

## Editorial Notes.

THE climate seems at last telling upon Lord REAY. He exhibits unmistakable symptoms of the Anglo-Indian liver. Once in an age a man might make a silly mistake and be forgiven. But twice within a week has the head of the Bombay Government delighted to insult his people. What is the matter with his Lordship? Has his good genius left with WEDDERBURN?

THE appointment of a Civilian in the person of Mr. CRAWLEY-BOEVEY to act as Presidency Magistrate of Bombay during Mr. COOPER'S absence, gave rise to no small ferment in that city. No sooner was the appointment announced than a memorial numerous and most influentially signed and written with great force of reasoning, was submitted to the Governor of Bombay, in which the memorialists protested against the appointment of a Civilian and prayed that a barrister competent to deal with questions of marine and commercial law which must often arise in a commercial capital and a busy port might be appointed. The memorialists were especially annoyed at the practical supersession of Mr. WEBB, a barrister who had previously officiated more than once as Presidency Magistrate. The memorial contained an alternative prayer that in the event of the Local Government not acceding to the wishes of the memorialists, their case might be submitted to the Secretary of State for orders. The unanimity and promptness of the movement made by the community of Bombay excited the wonder of every body. Indeed, the memorial was got up and the signatures were obtained with unprecedented promptness. But all in vain. The Bombay Government is not to be moved. Lord REAY has given a sharp rebuke to the memorialists and refused to forward the complaint to the Secretary of State. The rather acrimonious language which Lord REAY has for once been led to adopt in addressing his people, has naturally given offence, but his Lordship has taken the people into his confidence by entering into a long justification of the appointment. Nevertheless, Lord REAY might have shown more patience in dealing with the best men of Bombay Society of all races and classes.

NOT wishing to thwart a great undertaking with a fair chance by criticising minor matters, and yet not seeing our way quite to recommend it, we have these years been silent on the Databya Bharat Karyalaya. But the time has now come for speaking. PRATAP CHUNDER ROY, the soul of the institution (if it can be so-called) and now well-known throughout the world as the publisher of the English translation of the "Mahabharata," has just issued an appeal for more funds. That is not a great matter in itself—on the contrary it is a provoking if not suspicious matter. But he has also published an account. Not one of his tragic leaflets or mysterious autobiographic tracts, laying bare a seared heart and unfolding a romance of sacrifice—but a veritable statement not in words only but in figures too. This disarms us. We had a vague suspicion that the money which he had been collecting, was, somehow or other, being not very economically spent, specially as he has to depend more or less on others; and that, at any rate, retrenchments were possible. But the account which he has issued with the appeal, satisfactorily disposes of these suspicions. He has under him evidently a very able staff who have to be paid liberally, and the other expenses are on a goodly scale. Indeed, it is no joke publishing an English translation of the "Mahabharata"—a book in a dead tongue containing 200,000 lines. It is a work which should specially interest the Native chiefs of India, and we hope their apathy will not be so extreme as to starve this laudable undertaking to death. This translation is intended chiefly to benefit Europeans, and it is only natural that they should contribute their mite to it. The book will be completed in about 100 parts, of which 30 are now ready, and the nett cost of translation, publication, &c., of one part coming up to Rs. 1,250, the entire work, will cost Rs. 100 × 1,250 or Rs. 125,000. Thus the 70 parts that are yet to be done will cost 70 × 1,250 or Rs. 87,500. Deducting the balance Rs. 3,500 now in hand, the actual deficit comes to Rs. 84,000. Mr. ROY assures us that almost all the princes of India have been appealed to with more or less success, and unless they are disposed to help a second time, he does not know how he will bring about a successful termination of the work taken in hand. The various Provincial Governments of India might also give further aid. We earnestly



hope that this more than national undertaking will not be suffered to collapse for want of money.

No that he has taken the public into his confidence, the public ought more than ever to deal generously by him.

A PRETTY little Babel—without the Tower—has been discovered beyond the Atlantic, far away in the heart of the backwoods. We are told that

"Ten languages—English, German, Norwegian, Swedish, French, Bohemian, Finn, Polish, Italian, and Chinese—are spoken in Minnesota. The Governor's message was printed in each of these languages."

In India our rulers doubtless consider this a foolish condescension. With all the costly establishments at their command, they are generally unable to furnish translations of the Bills before the Imperial Council in the recognised vernaculars of the different Provinces.

BUT the curse of Babel itself need not be an Eternal Punishment—thanks to modern ingenuity:—

"Volapük, the new universal language which is meeting with such favor in Europe, is the result of twenty years of laborious research on the part of its inventor, M. Schleyer, of Constance. Its great merit lies in its simplicity, which causes it to be very quickly learned, and to be especially adapted to the needs of trade between different nations. It has no artificial genders, a single conjugation, and no irregular verbs. The roots of its words have been borrowed from all the languages of Europe. The adjective, verb, and adverb are regularly formed from the substantive, and have invariably the same termination. Volapük grammars have now been prepared in English, as well as in most other important languages of the globe."

May we hope the initial and worse curse that condemns us to live by the sweat of our brow to be removed in our day by the intervention of science?

SOMETIME ago a correspondent of the *Statesman* contributed to its column the following story:—

"About a year ago in the village of Mahabpore, in the District of Rajshahye, a tiger came and took up his quarters in a jungle hard by. He had an attack of small-pox and loved to lie down in a shady place. A large monkey happening to be in the same jungle, it took it into its head to poke the tiger with a stick and seemed to relish the joke very much. Whenever the tiger tried to attack the monkey it sprang upon a tree and thus baffled his efforts. After persecuting him for a few days, somehow or other it managed to place itself upon the back of the tiger. The monkey held tightly the ears of the tiger with its fore-paws and twined its hind paws under his belly. The tiger needed neither spur nor whip, but at once began to run about with the monkey on his back. At last, unable to get rid of the unwelcome customer, he dashed towards the village in despair as if to supplicate the men to dismount his rider. But, alas! none came to his help. When the monkey saw that the tiger had been thoroughly knocked up, it took advantage of an overhanging branch and immediately climbed up to the top of the tree. After this the tiger left the neighbourhood, and was at last killed in another village. The fate of our hero is unknown."

The writer describes himself as an eye-witness to that monkish legend—we mean monkey story. But what made our contemporary's correspondent so long suppress so capital a joke? There is nothing absolutely incredible in it though, though it certainly reaches that verge of goodness which we usually think inconsistent with truth. Monkeys are well known for many curious feats. They simulate man so well, and yet with such ludicrous effect, that they may be regarded as Nature's caricatures.

Mons. HENRI MOUHOT, the lamented French naturalist, who fell a victim to fever in the wilds of Indo-China, would have found no difficulty in receiving the account from Rajshahye, he had seen so many analogous instances. Indeed, the monkeys of Siam and Cambodia are a more than ordinarily funny and sportive race. The Simian hero of Rajshahye seems an exile from the woods of those countries, his deeds are of a piece with those recorded of his race in the mother-country. The monkeys of Bengal have their tricks too, as well as their wars among themselves. But the latter are usually conflicts of necessity or instinct, and the former are for a living. The stern behests of hunger sharpen the dullest faculties and deaden all sense of delicacy. The monkeys of Bengal like the men among whom they live, are more philosophers than lovers of active sport and rollicking fun. For genuine animal spirits, there is no *bunder* like the *bunder* of ultra-Gangetic India. We quote MOUHOT's *Travels*, vol. I., pp. 152-153:—

"Close to the bank lies the crocodile, his body in the water, and only his capacious mouth above the surface, ready to seize anything that may come within reach. A troop of apes catch sight of him, seem to consult together, approach little by little, and commence their frolics, by turns actors and spectators. One of the most active or most impudent jumps from branch to branch till within a respectful distance of the crocodile, when, hanging by one claw, and with the dexterity peculiar

to these animals, he advances and retires, now giving his enemy a blow with his paw, at another time only pretending to do so. The other apes, enjoying the fun, evidently wish to take a part in it; but the other branches being too high, they form a sort of chain by laying hold of each other's paws, and thus swing backwards and forwards, while any one of them who comes within reach of the crocodile torments him to the best of his ability. Sometimes the terrible jaws suddenly close, but not upon the audacious ape, who just escapes; then there are cries of exultation from the tormentors, who gambol about joyfully. Occasionally, however, the claw is entrapped, and the victim dragged with the rapidity of lightning beneath the water, when the whole troop disperse, groaning and shrieking. The misadventure does not, however, prevent their recommending the game a few days afterwards."

An illustration from a sketch drawn by the traveller on the spot faces that account. The book appeared under great disadvantage, being made up of the traveller's letters to his family and the journals kept by him, neither of which, from the circumstance of his being suddenly cut off in the midst of his journey in the forest, received the benefit of his revision. This is all the greater reason why the letter-press falls short of the illustration. The writing does not at all convey the hazardous drama depicted in the latter, or bring out its life and movement. It does not even attempt with humdrum accuracy to show the evidence of mind, and above all the power for concert and organising exhibited in forming themselves into long chains descending from lofty trees overhead to reach the wide-open jawed saurian and to swing together backwards and forwards, now to tempt and again to tantalise the terrible brute. No Public School scamps could have worked out the game of vexing the crocodile better.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* gives an account of the visit to the court of St. Petersburg of Mr. HIRAM MAXIM, a native of Maine, one of the United States, who is described as a well-known inventor. He has latterly caused a sensation by his claim to have made one of the most remarkable weapons of war even heard of. This is nothing less than an automaton of a gun. According to Mr. MAXIM, his instrument once set in motion will, without further interference, go on in its course for all time. It is not pleasant to think of the bare possibility of such a handy mechanical Siva—the Destroyer. But Mr. MAXIM clearly trenches on the Creator's functions, though he seems to work at the suggestion of the great enemy of God and man. Would that the man from Maine might be persuaded to give us a portable Vishnu—the Preserver! But then the man of Maine is a votary of Mammon, with an eye only to the main chance. He thinks he will make more money by dealing in destructives, and probably he has taken a true measure of mankind. Thus he has already been invited by perhaps the greatest sovereign in the world.

Mr. MAXIM gives a most favorable account of the Emperor. He returns with a very poor idea of the candour or justice of the British Press—that perfection of journalism which is held up to the poor all-evil, ever-offending native papers in this country for their careful imitation. He found that the statements repeatedly made in the English journals never agreed with the truth as he observed it. Notwithstanding all that the great British editors have said or may wish, the Czar is in no hurry to go mad. As for his supposed new sport of shooting men with a gun, the War Minister's daughter said to him—

"Only the other day I returned from a ball where I had been dancing with a certain Prince. I picked up an English newspaper when I came back, and found to my amusement that the Czar had shot the Prince with whom I had been dancing some hours before!"

It is said that Mr. MAXIM has satisfied the Emperor and his Minister of the claims of his invention. It is not wise in these days to doubt mechanical possibilities, or else, Vizier and Badshah notwithstanding, we should still incline to be incredulous. After all, we have only the inventor's own word for believing that he has won the Czar and the Minister of War of all the Russias. Besides, we are continually hearing of such marvels, but few of them come to fruition or any use. There is always a hitch somewhere in the most promising of them. So long ago as 1859, we believe, some English man of science offered a shell containing a deadly gas which, exploding among the enemy, would kill whoever smelled the poison. The papers were full of articles on the subject. The *Times* was exultant, and the *Saturday Review* philosophical. But where is the weapon? There surely could be no compunction about the employment towards our brethren of even such a blind instrument for massacre. We lost sight of it unaccountably.

But taking the claims of Mr. MAXIM for granted, the reflection suggested is sufficiently mournful. How easy and prolific is evil! Not a day almost passes without our hearing of some new agency or improvement upon existing methods. Yet, what good?

For all those trophied arts  
And triumphs that beneath thee sprang,  
Heal'd not a passion or a pang  
Entail'd on human hearts.

But how ready and efficient is our genius for mischief. We are continually trying our brains and our hands on agencies for mutual destruction and have made tolerable progress. Here is Mr. MAXIM who affects almost Divine power in creating as it were a self-acting destroyer. He never thought of working upon a life-giver, and would not have been half as much thought of had he done so, perhaps he would not have succeeded half as well. This is Doom!

THE *Saturday Review* has cut up poor Colonel LAURIE for his new work on Distinguished Anglo-Indians—thiswise:—

"The profusion of tags, the hackneyed quotations, the discursive allusions, the introduction of sages who years ago said or remarked something or other wholly foreign to the matter in hand, the post-prandial oratory of good-natured speakers who probably would wish their utterances consigned to oblivion, serve only to distract and irritate."

We have not seen the new book, but we are acquainted with the Colonel's writings. He had before published a small collection of short memoirs and obituary notices of Indian worthies and we believe the work under notice is a second and expanded edition of that book. We are not surprised to find him thus immolated in the London journal. The *Saturday Review* lives upon its reputation for smartness at the expense of unfortunate authors. The editor seems always praying that such writers should publish, for otherwise it would be difficult for him to supply the regulation quantity of naughty and corrosive criticism for the enjoyment of his expectant supporters.

The critic then proceeds to show up the author's ignorance and carelessness. Thus:—

"The author's miscellaneous and diversified reading should have taught him better history and ethnology than to describe the Shah of Persia as 'the descendant of Cyrus and Darius.' Prinsep's Ghaut, which is correctly described as erected to the memory of James Prinsep, one of five remarkable brothers, is not between 'Fort William and Baboo Ghaut,' as any recent guide-book would have told the author. It is below the Fort and nearer to Kidderpore and Cooley Bazar. The original of Captain Savage in *Peter Simple* was not any Captain Ker. We have always understood that Marryat intended this portrait for the late Lord Dundonald, under whom as Cochrane that author had served in early days. The swinging feast of the Hindus is usually known as the Charak or Churruck Puja, and not the Cheddul."

Again:—

"The first telegraph line in India, laid down by Sir W. O. Shaughnessy, now Sir W. Brooke, extended from Calcutta to Saugor Island, and *not only to Kedgerie*."

The author has attempted a reply. We take it, like the other quotations, from the *People's Budget*:—

"With reference to the rather impertinent, and not over accurate or impartial critique on 'Sketches of Some Distinguished Anglo-Indians,' in the *Saturday Review* of April 9, I beg leave to be allowed to state that the reviewer, in his customary oracular fashion, asserts:—'The first telegraph line in India laid down by Sir W. O. Shaughnessy, now Sir W. Brooke, extended from Calcutta to Saugor Island, and *not only to Kedgerie*.' Now, in spite of this contradiction, the real fact of the matter is as follows, which proves that I was right in saying that the first line of telegraph opened in India was from Calcutta to Kedgerie only. The despatch from Lord Dalhousie to the Court of Directors, dated April 23, 1852 (in Parliamentary Return, No. 243, dated May 16, 1855), begins:—'We have the honour to transmit the accompanying report from the Government of Bengal, announcing the completion, by Dr. W. B. O'Shaughnessy, of the Line Electric Telegraph from Calcutta to Kedgerie.' Saugor Island was thought of as the terminus, and Dr. O'Shaughnessy certainly advanced it, but the line does not in any way appear to have been established then *in the first instance*."

Colonel LAURIE takes up only one of the points raised in the critique, but he makes a successful vindication of his accuracy thereon, showing at any rate that the great *Review* is by no means infallible. This ought to teach critics to be both humble and careful. The fact is that such mistakes, whether of authors or critics, occur from doing things in haste and from defect of memory. They cannot be wholly avoided, but their number may be lessened by cultivating the habit of verifying statements before publication, especially before launching them out in books.

Colonel LAURIE might have given satisfactory explanation on at least another of the points. The description of Prinsep's Ghat as "between Fort William and Baboo Ghaut" is rather loose, to be sure, because *ghats* are landing-places, and the fort is not exactly on the bank, in as much as a road intervenes between it and the Hooghly. But in a general way we talk of Fort William as on the river and in that way, without doubt, Colonel LAURIE thought and wrote of it. It is putting too fine a point on a matter of popular description, not a

scientific account or a statement in an affidavit, to charge him with ignorance or error for having done so. "Baboo Ghat" is an error, but it is obviously an error of the press, as the writer in the *Saturday Review* ought to have perceived when he assumed to sit in judgment on questions touching the localities of Calcutta. Read, "Baloo" for "Baboo" and Colonel LAURIE's description is all right. We have no hesitation in saying that he wrote "Baloo" and the printer not knowing the name naturally thought it a slip and substituted the more familiar word "Baboo." Colonel LAURIE having long since left Bengal, with his present indistinct impressions of Calcutta, was unable to unravel the confusion. The more so as he seems to have "funkt" under the oracular utterance of his critic. We may return to the subject.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1887.

### THE EXCISE CONTROVERSY.

SCARCELY has the Excise Commission closed its labors, when the outstill question is curiously enough revived. It has attracted attention both here and at home, and has been made the subject of a question in the House of Commons. Mr. EDGAR's Excise Commission has apparently failed to set it at rest. The fault would seem, however, to lie at the door of the administration rather than of the Commission. It was hoped that the enquiries of the Commission would lead to a permanent solution of the difficulty—at any rate, to a mitigation of the obtrusive excesses of intemperance which were bitterly complained of. And the Commission proposed to gain this object by recommending the restriction of the outstill system to only the more sparsely peopled parts of the country where facilities of illicit distillation were great and the checks of the central distillery system could not be brought into operation. In this the Commission took exactly the view of the subject calculated to meet with the approval of the public judgment. So far as we understood the recommendations of the Commission, we did not believe that metropolitan districts like those of Hooghly and Howrah would be selected of all places for the trial of a system practically left without official control.

As we said before, the question is beset with great difficulties, however, of an administrative character rather than from policy. The policy of the Government may be sound, but the zeal of the fiscal officers who have to carry it out, often leads them to look more to the revenue than to the principles which underlie that policy. The difficulties are thus hard to counteract. There is, indeed, a great deal of maudlin sentiment as well as of exaggeration introduced into the discussion by the best intentioned men who have taken part in it. The position, for instance, taken up by Archdeacon FARAR in England, noble and philanthropic as it is, will scarcely commend itself to the acceptance of practical men. Intemperance cannot be abolished by Act of Parliament, any more than the opium traffic with China. Nor must the growing insobriety of India under the British rule, be set down to the British excise administration alone. The British connection has wrought a great and mighty change in the country. The increasing consumption of liquor by the people is an effect of that change, quite as much as the growing taste for other comforts and elegancies of life. To say therefore that "the British found India sober and has made it drunken," is about as much a fault of the British rule as that they found the people confirmed walkers and "cart-drivers" and have now forced them to journey in elegant springed and cushioned

carriages and on new-fangled man-eating railways. Of course, insobriety is a hateful form of the use of stimulating drinks, and, for the mass of inhabitants of hot climates, complete non-indulgence in such drinks is perhaps preferable to even the most moderate use of them. But the indulgence is a luxury which must come in the train of civilization, and society soon outgrows the excesses of intemperance. While, however, we do not attribute the growing intemperance in the country to the British rule, at any rate in the opprobrious sense in which the charge is usually made by patriots and philanthropists—we cannot exonerate the Government excise administration from all blame in the matter. It is simply uncandid to argue as Mr. BUCKLAND argues that you can take the horse to the water, but you cannot make it drink. By administering the excise with an eye to the revenue, facilities are created which must be irresistibly tempting. It is quite possible to stimulate temptation. Nor does the *Pioneer* much help towards a proper settlement of the question, by merely pouring contempt on the philanthropic and sentimental opponents of the Government excise policy. The principle of that policy by which consumption is restricted by the imposition of taxation, is indeed right. It may be all very well to say that the Government aims only at realizing a maximum of revenue upon a minimum of consumption. But facts are worth more than speculations. The supply of liquor by the outstills is practically unlimited. At any rate, it must be often out of proportion to the consuming population, the estimate of whom prepared by excise officers is fallacious. The cheapness of the liquor is susceptible of no other explanation. It is no wonder then, that the plain effects of the outstill shops spread broadcast over the country are most deplorable.

One thing is clear that the outstill system is applicable only to such jungly tracts with sparse population as Chota Nagpore and the Sonthal districts, and that, chiefly as an antidote to private distillation and smuggling. This is a conclusion which rests upon the recommendation of the Excise Commission itself. Why then act in defiance of that recommendation and supersede the sudder distillery in crowded seats of population in the advanced districts round the metropolis? The most valuable contribution to the discussion appears in the *Statesman* of the 3rd instant, in the shape of a very clear and practical exposition of the outstill administration in the Hooghly district, by a gentleman signing himself Dhirenda Nath Pal. He defends the establishment of outstills in Hooghly and Howrah on the extraordinary ground that it is required to check smuggling from the opposite district of the 24-Pergunnahs where outstills have been at work for some time before. Two blacks, however, cannot make one white, and Baboo PAL's argument only emphasizes the need of sweeping away the outstills from the 24-Pergunnahs. The old as well as the new must be purged from the neighbourhood of urban tracts. The apologist of the outstill administration speaks of the reduced capacity of the stills and the care taken by excise officers to ascertain the drinking proportion of the population of any tract to be served by an outstill shop in view to the determination of the capacity of the still. We must confess we have not the simplicity of the writer to believe in the reliability of these precautions. In the meantime, we must protest against the Excise Commission being thus turned into an instrument for defeating the very

objects for which it was appointed. In view of the reply given by two Provincial rulers to memorials against the multiplication of outstills, we have scarcely any hope that the evil will receive any adequate check until the excesses and horrors of the abuse of outstill force themselves too plainly on the attention of the authorities for further inaction. The Government can not be sufficiently disabused of the notion that the Revenue Board and our excise officers act in the spirit of the law. They naturally look to the revenue, and the instinct of self-preservation leads them to augment the revenue, regardless of the principle which is their ostensible guide.

## A PROPHET AT HOME.

AS REVEALED BY HIMSELF.

No man is a hero to his *valet de chambre*. How little of a hero is he to himself. Those who are in the habit of jotting down their common experiences and their passing thoughts, and preserving their private correspondence, may well be alarmed by the recent spectacle of literary executors or other friends, for their own aggrandisement or from mere love of lucre, coolly damaging their confiding deceased friends, by the publication of the hoarded trash in which the great have written themselves down. Nor is it some obscure literary adventurers or Grub Street beggars that have so misconducted themselves, but responsible men of letters of repute. The first and worst culprit is the learned and sagacious living historian of England. What a reproach to the literary character even in this advanced age that a great author like Mr. FROUDE who is so fond of whitewashing the black legs of history, should, from motives of low profit, practically black-guard or at least be the instrument of for ever blasting the fair fame of his deceased friend, and that friend the sublime CARLYLE—the Prophet of Heroism in modern times!

Something of the same kind, though on a very small scale, is going on in India.

The late KESHUB CHUNDER SEN kept a diary of his tour to Europe. It is nothing particular, though marked by all the shrewdness and arch slyness of the Brahmo leader's mind and all the facility and grace of his pen. Under any circumstances, it must be a measure of grave responsibility to give to the world the private journals of such a man, recently deceased, who was a great religious leader, head of an existing sect. Immediately after KESHUB's death, however, his Diary appeared from week to week in his English organ. After some months, it suddenly stopped, before bringing the author home. The Diary itself had not come to a sudden close. The publication only was not pursued—whether the survivors awoke to the responsibility, or experienced any evil effects from exposing the Prophet in *dis-habille*, we do not know. There was probably no record in the MS., of the

Fears of the brave and follies of the wise ;

or if there was ; it was suppressed. But a Diary must in the nature of it contain much matter of a petty kind or of indifferent interest. It seems that some people have still stomach for the minor concerns and diversions and weaker thoughts of the great, or it is just possible that immediate friends of the deceased think his littleness sublime, or at least, regard the smallest details about him with loving interest. So, with the late change in the conduct of the *Liberal*, the publication of the Diary has been resumed, without note

or comment, perhaps without editing. What the effect of the move is likely to be on the general public, may be judged from the following little excerpt:—

"Breakfast and dinner as agreeable and hearty as usual. I for my part never expected that in Ceylon, in an English Hotel, I should have curries of brinjal and potato and *Belatee Koomra*, prepared for me every morning and evening regularly. Imagine my situation when I have so many curries and an immense quantity of rice around me. Oh, I eat devilish well."

Seers and Saints—Rishis and Maharshis—are not necessarily without nose or palate, any more than without an eye to the main chance. Here the Prophet discovers his keen appreciation of the good things of life. He comes before us in the character of a *gourmand*. But he is still only a Hindu *gourmand*, with almost a ludicrous love of unripe bananas and brinjals, and without any longing for strong beverages, beyond perhaps the cup that cheers but not inebriates. Of *Belatee* edibles he fancies the *Belatee Koomra*. This may be a little matter, but the spirit exhibited is thoroughly carnal. What thoughts might not we expect to be roused in the Hindu traveller's mind in Ceylon. What a crowd of noble associations are connected with that island! There is no more beautiful land on the face of the globe. Its interest to the merchant, the agriculturalist, the capitalist, the botanist, the antiquarian, is palpable. The politician may see there the workings of the Colonial system in an Indian island. To the native of India it is the most fascinating of classic regions—at once a historic land and the land of Poetry and Romance. To KESHUB, one would think, it would be profoundly interesting for the light it could afford on the religious history of his own country. For it is the only spot wherein Buddhism and Brahmanism were simultaneously flourishing. He might there see Islam too, and, above all, the silent influence of a dominant Christianity on all the three principal creeds of Asia. Yet, even there what most interests our man of prayer is the curries of the land. We are shown how he smacked his lips in pure enjoyment. The Prophet of the New Dispensation falls with perfect gusto upon the luxuries of the table. The Vyasa of the *Brahmo Sanhita*—the sixth Veda—carefully records his eating in the island. The Reformer forgot his mission in his taste of the plantains and salads of the kitchen-gardens of the land of Ravana, much as the simian scout of Rama momentarily forgot his errand in the lusciousness of the mangoes in Ravana's orchard. All the endless suggestiveness of the land was lost upon our modern traveller. The Prophet of the New Dispensation diarised his discovery of the *Belatee Koomra*.

For ourself, we are not surprised, nor sorry, to discover such unmistakeable humanity in the Saint. But the question is, How will the grim Puritans of the Progressive Church regard this revelation of the Founder?

In Europe or America, such an inkling into the life and conversation of a prominent preacher would be considered a damaging disclosure indeed.

It will be seen that not only was KESHUB fond of good eating with all a man of the world's enthusiasm, but he was not scrupulous or refined in his language. He was something worse than slangy—even profane. His lapse in the direction of superfluous swearing in English is extraordinary for a foreigner who not only had such a command of pure good reputable English, but showed such familiarity with the language of the Christian pulpit. As an Englishman, he would have made an Archbishop after THURLOW's heart.

## THE GWALIOR LOAN.

WITH regard to the Gwalior Loan, I see that various of the public papers are wondering what the Government of India intend doing with it. Some are, in a spirit of cynicism, suggesting that it should be employed in ameliorating the condition of the rayyets of Gwalior—the peasantry from whom, they state, it has been wrung by extortion by the late Maharaja. Now, if I am not mistaken, the condition of the cultivator in Scindia's territories will compare very favorably with that of the same class in British territory, "many of whom do not know what it is to have a full meal a day" and whose lands are rackrented by the iron and blood system of cash payments, enforced by the land revenue laws with scarcely, if any, remissions for bad and unfavorable years.

It is true that the late Maharaja amassed an immense horde of treasure. But he was by no means the only possessor of such superfluous cash. Not only Scindia but, likewise to a larger and smaller extent, every one of our Native Feudatories owns such hordes. These enormous collections have naturally proved a source of astonishment to our financiers, but they will cease to be astonished if they will only take into consideration a few patent facts. These wise princes do not keep up an exceedingly expensive and overpaid Civil Service. Likewise they do not possess a pension list of pensioners paid in England in English Gold, where the difference of the value of silver and the depreciation of the value of the Rupee causes a loss to the revenues of the Empire of some millions of rupees a year to the grief of the Indian tax-payer.

The Native Chieftains, as a general rule, in a very great measure, rule their own countries by the aid of their own countrymen, who receive, in comparison with the Civil Service of India, comparatively very low salaries. In fact, I feel convinced as a general rule these stipends do not amount to one half, nay, one quarter of the sums paid to Indian Civilians.

Suppose for a few years the salaries of our Civilians from the Viceroy downwards, were diminished some 25 or 30 per cent., the country would soon feel the benefit of it. Again, if all those who earned their pensions were to be paid those pensions in the coin of the Indian realm, there would be a still greater saving, but these drastic measures would raise too great a howl and there would be too many English interests involved to permit of such a measure.

If our imported rulers are found to be too expensive and the revenues of the country cannot stand the ever-increasing yearly strain that is put on them on their account, why does not the Government of India with common sense and common honesty, employ more of those whose domiciles are in India, and who will be quite satisfied if their pay is one half of the stipends given to the present civilian and who will be happy to receive their pensions in India in Rupees instead of in England in gold. These men, if they do manage to save up money from their pay, will not, as a general rule run away to England and spend their hordes and pensions there, as the modern Civilian does, but, in every probability, he will invest his hard won earnings in this country, in either agriculture or perhaps in aiding to develop its manufactures, arts and various indigenous industries, thus contributing to the advancement and improvement of the country, instead of aiding to drain it of all its wealth. The true and natural friend of the domiciled Anglo-Indian and Eurasian is the educated native of India, if we will let him be so, but when we are so split up amongst ourselves and address opprobrious and insulting epithets to a fellow countryman if his skin happens to be one shade darker than our own, how can we be expected to spare the "Asian of pure extraction, and until such time as we leave off calling our Aryan brother a nigger and treating him as something less than a man, how can we expect any true "rapprochement" in feeling and any union of interests? Like every other intelligent human being, the educated native is particularly sensitive to kind and courteous treatment. I remember one hot day in Deyrah, a Bengalee Baboo in the Survey Department came to my house. I found out he was a Bhramo, so asked him if he would like sherbet or tea. He preferred the former and I told my eldest daughter to make him a glass. This she did and handed him the glass herself. The Baboo has carried this small incident, to which I attached not the slightest importance but merely as an act of common courtesy, to his friends and relatives in both Calcutta and Dacca.

Let us Anglo-Indians and Eurasians treat our Indian countrymen with common courtesy. If you respect others, they will respect you, should be our motto in all our dealings with them. Let us hold out the hand of friendship honestly and without reservation to them, and I will warrant we will never have to regret our having so done, and thus united in friendship and interest we shall be in a position to compel the Government to make a greater use of country material in the various Government services, and thus import fewer strangers from England. By a sensible reduction of the salaries of those so employed, the finances would, in a comparatively short time, be readjusted, and the present annual deficit that is rapidly

dragging the country into bankruptcy will be a thing of the past. No more will India be saddled with a nightmare which, so to say, is crushing the public chest with its ever-increasing weight.

ANDREW HEARSEY.

### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

**GENERAL.**—The 8th June 1887.—Mr. C. A. S. Bedford, Assistant Commissioner, reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 25th May 1887.

The 9th June 1887.—Mr. G. K. Lyon is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to the Sudder station of the 24-Pergunnahs district, on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal by Mr. H. A. D. Phillips.

The 10th June 1887.—Mr. A. W. B. Power, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Shahabad, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 27th April 1887, *vice* Mr. T. Norman, on leave.

Mr. R. M. Waller, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Nuddea, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 5th May 1887, *vice* Mr. E. V. Westmacott, on deputation.

Mr. A. Forbes, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 11th May 1887, *vice* Mr. C. F. Worsley, on deputation.

Mr. F. R. S. Collier, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Rungpore, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 6th May 1887, *vice* Mr. W. B. Oldham, appointed to act in the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Mr. C. R. Marindin, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Dinagepore, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 27th April, *vice* Mr. A. W. B. Power.

Mr. G. A. Grigson, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Gya, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 5th May 1887, *vice* Mr. R. M. Waller.

Mr. E. R. Henry, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Cuttack, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 11th May 1887, *vice* Mr. A. Forbes.

The 11th June 1887.—Baboo Dino Nath Dey, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Gya.

This cancels the order of the 28th May 1887, appointing Baboo Dino Nath Dey to have charge of the Aurungabad sub-division of the Gya district.

The order of the 28th May 1887, granting privilege leave for one month to Baboo Mokunda Deb Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Aurungabad, Gya, is cancelled.

Baboo Nanda Lal Bagchi, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, was on leave under rule 1, section 128 of the Civil Leave Code, from the 16th to the 25th May last.

The 13th June 1887.—Baboo Roy Brahma Dutt is appointed temporarily to be a Special Deputy Collector for excise work in the district of Durbhunga.

Mr. A. Weekes, c.s., has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of furlough for four months.

Mr. A. Forbes, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st August 1887.

Mr. J. Whitmore, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Beerbhoom, is allowed leave for one month and two days, under the note to rule 3, section 73 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved by Mr. R. H. Anderson.

Mr. R. H. Anderson, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Moorshedabad, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Beerbhoom, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J. Whitmore, or until further orders.

Mr. G. E. Manisty, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Mozufferpore, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Shahabad, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. A. W. B. Power, or until further orders.

Baboo Jodunath Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Burdwan, is appointed to have charge of the Cutwa sub-division of that district.

Baboo Mohendro Nath Buttacharjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Howrah, is transferred to Burdwan, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Baboo Juggut Chunder Shome, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cutwa, is transferred to Jessore, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Baboo Nunda Lal Bagchi, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is transferred to Howrah, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Baboo Probhat Chunder Chatterjee, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pooree, on leave, is transferred to Rungpore, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

The 14th June 1887.—Mr. H. S. Beadon, Magistrate and Collector, Durbhunga, was on leave, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, on the 19th February 1887.

Mr. T. J. Mendes, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kurigram, Rungpore, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Mr. C. G. H. Allen, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Rungpore, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Kurigram sub-division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. T. J. Mendes, or until further orders.

**JUDICIAL.**—The 9th June 1887.—Baboo Ganesham Gupta, Munsif of Muddehpore, in the district of Bhagulpore, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a court up to the value of Rs. 50 within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Munsif of Muddehpore.

Baboo Govind Deb Mookerjee, Munsif of Banka, in the district of Bhagulpore, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a Court up to the value of Rs. 50 within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Munsif of Banka.

The 10th June 1887.—Baboo Sarat Chandra Chatterjee, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Thakurgaon, Dinagepore, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

The 11th June 1887.—Baboo Poorno Chunder Shome is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Dacca, to be ordinarily stationed at Kaligunge, on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Second Subordinate Judge of Dacca.

Baboo Poorno Chunder Shome is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a Court up to the value of Rs. 50 within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Kaligunge Munsif.

Baboo Jagadishwar Gupta, Officiating First Munsif of Kooshtea, in the district of Nuddea, is confirmed in that appointment.

The 14th June 1887.—Baboo Raj Gopal Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pooree, is vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

**GRANT OF LEAVE TO MUNSIFS.**—The 7th June 1887.—Baboo Purna Chunder Ghose, First Munsif of Patna, is allowed leave for 15 days, viz., 14 days under section 73, rule 3, chapter V. of the Civil Leave Code, and the remaining one day under section 73, rule 1, of the same Code, with effect from the forenoon of the 2nd instant.

The 11th June 1887.—Baboo Srigopal Chatterjee, Munsif of Sundeeep, in the district of Noakhally, is allowed leave for seven days, under section 128, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 23rd ultimo.

THE Relief Committee have promptly responded to the account published in our last and paid Rs. 20 for the relief of the immediate wants of the poor Brahman of Sobhabazar. More on the disaster in our next.

## Official Paper.

### CYCLONE IN THE BAY OF BENGAL.

No. 2092, dated Calcutta, the 2nd June 1887.

From—CAPTAIN A. W. STIFFE, I.M., Port Officer of Calcutta, To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Dept.

I have the honour to submit the following report of a severe cyclone, of which the centre passed over the Sandheads and pilot station.

2. From the 20th May a storm was reported by the Meteorological Department as forming in the bay. Owing to the regrettable absence of any station at the Andamans it was not possible to speak positively as to its location or extent.

3. Further, on the 24th, 25th, 26th and 27th May no reports were received from the very important station of Diamond Island. I would respectfully point out that this failure of signals took place also in the cyclone of the 16th and 17th June 1886, when no reports were received from the 15th to 19th inclusive; also from the 17th to 20th November inclusive, before the cyclone on the 23rd idem. It is of the utmost importance that this important station should be in the highest degree of efficiency.

4. On the 24th May, probably owing to the absence of the Diamond Island report, it was thought that the storm was crossing the bay to a point near Vizagapatam, but on the 25th it was found to be advancing to the east of False Point, towards the Sandheads, and at 8-50 A.M., the signals were hoisted in the river indicating the passage of a storm of moderate intensity to southward of Saugor. No ships arrived in the river on the 25th or 26th; and on the 24th, 25th and 26th no vessels left the river, excepting the ship *Godiva*, which left early on the 25th, in tow of the steam-tug *Retriever*, and the S. S. *Sir John Lawrence* (Chandbally boat) with upwards of 730 native passengers, which left on the afternoon of the 25th. All



other ships waited either at Diamond Harbour or Saugor; and the other two Chandbally boats, the steamers *Tyrone* and *Curlew*, waited at Kedgerce, and no damage was sustained by any of them, except loss of anchors, &c., by some.

5. The storm blew with great fury, and the sea is described as being beyond the experience of those who went through the storm. Its centre passed the pilot station about 8 P.M., and thence travelled to westward of Saugor about 3 in the morning, and passed inland near the Subarnrekha river to eastward of Balasore about 5 in the morning of the 26th. The cyclone at Calcutta amounted to a moderate gale only. The storm-wave passed up the river fortunately on the ebb, and although the low water level was quite 8 feet above the normal, yet before high water the effect had passed, and the high water level was only 4 feet above the tabulated height for the day. It appears that much land between Hidgelee and Subarnrekha has been overflowed.

6. On the 26th nothing was learnt in town (beyond the actual strength of the wind at Saugor and False Point) of the results of the cyclone, but the *Resolute* was despatched by the Port Commissioners at day-light on the 27th to visit the lightships and Sandheads and give any assistance required. The *Undaunted*, being still in the hands of the Dockyard, was not able to proceed, her boilers being under repair. The repairs were commenced on the 12th March, and it was hoped would be easily completed before the stormy season, but the patching of boilers is slow work, and has occupied a much longer time than was anticipated.

7. On the 27th matters appearing to be more serious, the *Retriever* not having returned, the Chandbally steamer not having arrived there, and no vessel having come into Saugor, I considered some further action urgent, and resolved to take up a vessel to proceed to the Sandheads to get news of the brigs and to search for missing vessels. Owing to the loss of the *Retriever*, Messrs. Gladstone, Wylie and Company have now a monopoly of tugs, and they refused to allow a tug to proceed for less than Rs. 1,000 a day, the ordinary charge for towing being only Rs. 600. I learn that they have since charged the *Godiva* Rs. 5,000 for towing her from the Gasper to Calcutta, the ordinary price being about Rs. 1,600 from the Sandheads. I therefore decided on chartering the *Madras*, a steamer offered by the British India Steam Navigation Company for Rs. 850 a day, including coal, and beg to enclose copy of the agreement marked A, and to solicit sanction to the agreement. The *Madras* was coaled and despatched early on the 28th. Commander Jackson of the *Undaunted* was sent in charge of the expedition, and I engaged an officer of the Chandbally service to act as pilot in the Western and Sola Channels not usually visited by other ships. I beg to attach copy of the orders issued to Captain Jackson, marked B. The steamer *Madras* has not yet returned to port. I may mention that on the 27th the steamer *Resolute* experienced a very heavy sea in the Gasper Channel, and did not proceed to sea that evening.

8. On the 28th, the *Cuckoo* was also despatched by the Port Commissioners to visit the refuge houses: she is expected back to-morrow or next day.

9. The P. and O. steamer *Nepaul*, the first vessel in from sea (having a special pilot she was able to get in), anchored at Saugor at noon on the 27th, and in the evening a telegram was received, marked C, which told a tale of great disaster, and confirmed me in my view as to the necessity of sending a second vessel. Owing to its being received by flag-signals, there was a mistake which led to the inference that the *Retriever*, and her ship, the *Godiva*, had foundered. Several light-ships were also reported as out of position.

10. Several vessels arrived on the 28th, one of which reported the brigs to be safe and on the station. I will here mention that the brigs put to sea, and passed through the centre of the storm, returning to the station at its close, and sustaining only petty damage. They each lost an anchor and chain, one boat and several sails, besides some hencoops and other deck furniture. One brig immediately took up the duty of Eastern Channel light-ship, burning blue lights at short intervals, the other attending to the pilotage work.

11. On the 29th, the other Chandbally steamers, which left after the storm, returned to Calcutta, having seen nothing of the *Sir John Lawrence*, which vessel they had been directed to search for en route. As we have received, yesterday, information that the *Resolute* passed through a large number of floating dead bodies, some of women, and as others have been washed ashore at Saugor, there can be little doubt that she foundered, and that every soul on board has perished. Her Commander, Captain Irvine, was a very experienced man, and had commanded vessels in the Chandbally trade for a number of years. He was, however, in my opinion, too ready to incur risk. In the cyclone in last June, he left a day before any other vessel had left the river, except the French Mail steamer, and on the present occasion the storm-signals had been up for hours and seen by the *Tyrone* and *Curlew*, which vessels anchored at Kedgerce in consequence; they were passed, lying at anchor, two hours later by the ill-fated ship. The wind and sea at that time must have been tremendous. She had, I believe, 732 passengers, a large proportion being women of this place proceeding on pilgrimage.

12. *Light-ships*.—The Long Sand light-ship, the nearest to Saugor, was missing, and it was feared must have foundered, surrounded as

she was by shoals, but she floated over all the shoals on the storm-wave and grounded below Hidgelee, where she is now nearly high and dry, but reported as not injured. She was first reported by the *Curlew*, which vessel sighted her on return from Chandbally on the 29th. The Deputy Conservator has gone to see what should be done to get her off.

13. The next light-vessel in order, the Upper Gasper, rode out the storm; the Lower Gasper also rode safely, after parting one chain. The Intermediate lost an anchor and chain and drifted about half a mile. The Mutlah Light rode out the gale safely, being out of its direct course. The Eastern Channel and Ridge Lights both parted and were reported missing: the Ridge drifted 40 miles, and afterwards made sail and returned to the vicinity of her station, when she was picked up and put in position by the *Resolute*. Of the Eastern Channel, it is known that she returned to the station yesterday, in tow of the *Madras*, from off Pippley.

14. There remains the case of the *Godiva* and steamer *Retriever*, which vessels put to sea on the morning of the 25th about two or three hours before the storm-signals were hoisted. I propose to hold a departmental enquiry on the pilot in charge of the *Godiva* as to the propriety of his proceeding to sea under such circumstances. It appears that at that time the wind was light, and the glass had not fallen much, and the master agreed with the pilot it would be better to get out. The captain of the tug, it is said, did not make any objection, and the ship was towed out, and between 12 and 1 was cast off outside the Eastern Channel Light in the usual way. For the last two hours the wind and sea had increased rapidly, but it was not then possible to turn the ship back. After casting off, the ship sailed to the southward, got into the most violent part of the storm, blew nearly all her sails away, had her decks swept and cabins gutted, and her cargo shifted, so that she heeled over to port very much,—she returned or drifted back to the river, and has been towed up to town, where she will discharge cargo.

15. The *Retriever* tried to return to Saugor, but found the sea too heavy, and adopted the only course open of going out to sea—head to the sea. She has not been since seen. Marvellously the P. and O. steamer *Nepaul* picked up a native fireman belonging to this vessel, who had been 17 hours in the water, and reports that she foundered soon after midnight of the 25th, and it can hardly be hoped that any other survivors of the unfortunate vessel will be found. She was a fine new tug, and the most powerful on the river.

16. I attach copy of a report by the senior officer at the cruising station marked D.

No. 73T---M. dated Darjeeling, the 8th June 1887.

From---COLMAN MACAULAY, Esq., C. I. E., Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, Municipal Department.

To---The Port Officer, Calcutta.

I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2092, dated 2nd instant, in which you submit a report upon the cyclone of 25th and 26th ultimo.

2. You first advert to the interruption of telegraphic communication with the station of Diamond Island between the dates of 24th and 27th ultimo inclusive. It appears that communication with Diamond Island was similarly interrupted for four days at the time of the cyclone of last June. You rightly observe that it is of the utmost importance that this station should be maintained in the highest degree of efficiency. Enquiries will be made in the matter from the Meteorological Reporter through the General Department of this Government. You have been separately asked in my letter No. 71T---M, dated the 7th instant, to report your opinion, with reference to the experience derived from the late storm, on the advisability of laying a telegraph cable from Saugor to the Eastern Channel light-ship, and the practicability of maintaining it during a cyclone.

3. As regards the storm itself, you report that signals were hoisted in the river at 8-50 A.M., on the 25th, indicating the passage of a storm of moderate intensity to the southward of Saugor. You do not state what reports were received by you on 25th, but it appears that the centre of a violent cyclone passed to the westward of Saugor at 3 A.M., on the 26th, and it is presumed that you were apprized of this circumstance early on the morning of that day. It also appears that a storm-wave advanced up the river on the ebb tide, giving at Calcutta a rise of eight feet above the normal, and affording unmistakable evidence of exceptional disturbance of the weather at the mouth of the river. At daylight, on the 27th, the Port Commissioners' steamer *Resolute* was despatched to visit the light-ships and to render any assistance required by vessels in distress. On the 27th your apprehensions were increased, and you chartered on behalf of Government the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Madras*, at a cost of Rs. 850 a day, and on the 28th despatched her to sea. The Government steamer *Undaunted*, which had been placed in the Dockyard for repairs on the 12th March, was still under repairs at this time.

4. With reference to these points, I am desired to say that the Lieutenant-Governor, while confirming your action in regard to the *Madras*, and acknowledging the care and forethought with which

your instructions were issued in regard to her voyage, is of opinion that in cases in which the approach of such a storm to the neighbourhood of the Sandheads is reported, it would be desirable to take earlier measures of precaution. When it is known that a serious cyclone is advancing towards the Orissa or the Bengal Coast, a Government steamer should at once be despatched as far down the river as possible, to be ready to go to sea at the earliest moment to search for disabled or wrecked vessels, and to render assistance generally to seafarers in distress. The fact that in this instance the *Resolute* was prevented by stress of weather from at once putting to sea is not overlooked. This circumstance, however, in no way detracts from the need for provident action in such cases. Moreover, two steamers are shown to have remained in safety during the storm in the Kedgerie anchorage, and to have afterwards proceeded to Chandbally. Sir Stuart Bayley is strongly convinced of the necessity of promptly taking in such cases the utmost precautionary measures, without waiting for tidings of the actual arrival of the storm at any particular point.

5. The attention of the Dockyard authorities will be drawn to the delay in completing the repairs of the *Undaunted*.

6. The actual loss to the shipping was confined to the tug *Retriever* and the steamer *Sir John Lawrence*. The first proceeded to sea early on the 25th, apparently before the hoisting of the storm signals was known. The *Retriever* was lost, but the ship *Godiva*, which it had taken down the river, went ashore and was ultimately saved. You state your intention to hold a departmental enquiry into the conduct of the Pilot in charge of the *Godiva* in proceeding to sea in the face of such weather as prevailed at the time, and your report will be awaited. The *Sir John Lawrence*, with 732 passengers on board, has in all probability perished at sea, and no witness remains to tell the story of the disaster. This appalling calamity, which has carried misery and desolation into many homes, appears from your letter to have been the result of over-confidence on the part of Captain Irvine, an experienced, but too daring, commander. It can scarcely be doubted that, had he followed the example of the commanders of the *Tyrene* and the *Curlew*, who had brought their vessels to anchor at Kedgerie two hours before the *Sir John Lawrence* passed down, this pitiable disaster would have been avoided. His Excellency the Viceroy has desired that the deep sympathy of himself and of the other members of the Government of India may be conveyed to the members of the bereaved families, and you have

already been asked to add to this message an expression of Sir Stuart Bayley's sorrow at the affliction which has befallen them. Meanwhile Sir Stuart Bayley is of opinion that a full enquiry should be held in order to ascertain whether this vessel was really safe and seaworthy when she left the port. A statement which has been submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor by an ex-officer of the ship has been separately forwarded to you for report. You are requested to hold a careful investigation of the allegations contained in it, and to submit without delay the conclusions at which you may arrive. The circumstances in which this catastrophe occurred also render it desirable for Government to consider whether measures should not be taken to give the authorities power to detain vessels on account of threatening weather, and to render it penal for commanders to leave the river when certain signals have been exposed. The Meteorological Reporter to Government will be asked to advise upon this proposal, and your opinion upon it is also invited.

7. The Lieutenant-Governor learns with satisfaction that the pilot brigs and the light-vessels have been saved, and he desires that his thanks may be communicated to the many officers of the Marine Department who displayed courage and resource in circumstances of much distress and difficulty, and who largely contributed by their efforts to mitigate the effects of the disaster.

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### THE PILLS

Purify the Blood, correct all Disorders of the  
**LIVER, STOMACH, KIDNEYS AND BOWELS,**  
 They invigorate and restore to health Debilitated Constitutions, and are invaluable in all Complaints incidental to Females of all ages.  
 For children and the aged they are priceless.

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Is an infallible remedy for Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Old Wounds, Sores and Ulcers. It is famous for Gout and Rheumatism. For disorders of the Chest it has no equal.

**For Sore Throats, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds,**  
 Glandular Swellings and all Skin Diseases, it has no rival; and for contracted and stiff joints it acts like a charm.

Manufactured only at Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishment  
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## NOTICE.

Persons in possession of Carriages, Horses, Ponies or Mules as may have been kept within the town during the half year ended March, 1887, and who have not as yet taken out Licenses for the same, are requested to do so at once under Sections 66 and 67 of Act IV (B.C.) of 1876, and Sections 4 and 5 of Act I of 1882, according to the Schedule quoted below for general information. All applications for Licenses should be accompanied with the amount payable and addressed to the undersigned.

By order,  
 R. CHATTERJEE,  
 License Officer.

### SCHEDULE.

	Per Half-year.	Rs.	As.	P.
For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by two horses	...	12	0	0
If more than one such carriage, then for every such carriage after the first, two-thirds of the above rate	...	8	0	0
For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by one horse, or pony or mule, or a pair of ponies or mules under thirteen hands	...	6	0	0
If more than one such carriage, then for every such carriage, after the first, two-thirds of the above rate	...	4	0	0
For every two-wheeled carriage	...	6	0	0
For every horse (not a race horse) pony, or mule	...	6	0	0
For every race horse	...	12	0	0
For every pony or mule under thirteen hands	...	2	0	0

NOTE.—Animals under eleven hands in height and carriages, the wheels of which do not exceed twenty-four inches in diameter, are exempted.

Signature and Residence.

## INFALLIBLE SPECIFIC FOR LEUCORRHOEA.

A week's use of this medicine not only cures Leucorrhœa—the characteristic white, green and bloody discharge—but also removes the concomitant intense menstrual pains, and all the various complaints and symptoms incidental to menstrual difficulties and green sickness, and prepares the system for conception.

Price: for a week's consumption, Rs. 2, packing and postage 4 annas.

There are capital medicines besides—for piles, all the 20 kinds of flux—such as spermatorrhœa, diabetes, &c.—diarrhœa, rheumatism, puerperal complaints, cataract of the eye, macra, asthma, &c.

[Certificate.]

"I have known Babu Rajendra Nath Ghoshal kubiraj for upwards of 15 years, and I can bear ample testimony to the wonderful efficacy of his medicine in the treatment of diseases of the womb. While Assistant Surgeon of Monghyr and subsequently, I have known him to cure the most obstinate cases of uterine Leucorrhœa and other uterine derangements, organic and functional. I can safely call his medicine the Specific for Leucorrhœa and painful menstruation. Ladies who have been subject to these diseases for years and were barren have been cured and borne children.

Womesh, Chunder Roy, L. M. S., Medl. Practitioner, Bhagalpur. 30 October 1886."

Apply to

RAJENDRANATH GHOSAL, KABIRAJ,  
 Topkhana Bazar,  
 MONGHYR.

## A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta, WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, on Thursday, the 23rd June 1887, at 3 P. M. BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To consider the Report of the Special Committee appointed to consider the re-organisation of the Health Officer's Department consequent on the appointment of a whole-time Health Officer.
2. To confirm the Resolution passed by the Town Council on the 8th June—"That the contract with Baboo Narendro Nath Ghose be cancelled, and that the contract for unloading the refuse wagons be renewed with Baboo Bhobonath Sen, at the rate of Re. 1-1 per wagon, the rate under his former contract, and at which he has again tendered to do the work."
3. To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at Meetings held on the 14th, 21st, and 28th May, and 4th and 8th June.
4. To confirm the proceedings of the Water Supply Extension Committee, at a Meeting held on the 7th June.
5. To confirm the proceedings of the Bustee and Sanitary Committee, at a Meeting held on the 17th June.

At the close of the Special General Meeting, a Special Meeting will be held under Act IV. of 1883.

1. To confirm the Resolutions passed by the Town Council on the 14th May and 4th June, refusing the applications to store jute in premises No. 135 Durmahatta Street and 13-5 Hurro Chunder Mullick's Street.

ROBERT TURNBULL,  
 Secy. to the Corporation.

## CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

SEALED tenders for the supply of miscellaneous stores required by the Corporation during the quarter ending 30th September 1887, will be received up to 2 P. M. on the 22nd June next.

2. Forms of tender and list of Stores required can be had on application.
  3. Tenders will be opened by the Vice-Chairman at 2-15 P. M. on the same day in the presence of tenderers who may wish to attend.
- UDOY NARAIN SINGHA,  
 Superintendent of Stores.

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1887.

No. 279

## The Week.

THE following explains itself:—

"Military Department.—No. 459.—Simla, the 20th June, 1887. In commemoration of the Jubilee Anniversary of the Accession of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, Empress of India, the 21st of June, 1887, is appointed to be observed as a holiday by the Armies of India.

A Salute of 50 guns will be fired at daybreak of the 21st instant from all Forts and Batteries from which Salutes are usually fired.

As a mark of Royal clemency on this occasion, it will be announced, in the General Orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India, that an amnesty will be granted to particular classes of Military offenders in the British Army, and the release of Military prisoners of the British Army will take place, who, on the 21st instant, may be undergoing sentences of imprisonment for the offences specified in the orders of the Commander-in-Chief in India of this date.

In the Native Army all soldiers undergoing sentence of Court-Martial in military custody will be released, and all regimental prisoners and defaulters of the British and Native Armies will be excused further punishment.

The Viceroy and Governor-General in Council has much gratification in announcing that, as a token of the appreciation in which the services of the Native Officers of the Army in India are held by Her Majesty the Queen, Empress of India, and in commemoration of Her Jubilee, the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State has been pleased, on the recommendation of the Government of India, to sanction an increase to the Order of British India of fifty appointments to the Second Class of the Order. The increased establishment will stand as follows:

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Total.
Bengal, including Punjab Frontier Force, the Hyderabad Contingent, and the Local Corps	88	118	206
Madras	53	63	116
Bombay	34	44	78
Total	175	225	400

By order of the Governor-General in Council,  
E. H. H. COLLEN, *Lieut.-Colonel,*  
*Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.*

THE Order of the Indian Empire has been reconstituted to include a class of Knights Grand Commander and the following have been appointed—Lord REAY, Governor of Bombay, Lord CONNEMARA, Governor of Madras, and Sir FREDERICK ROBERTS, Commander-in-Chief in India. The following have also been nominated Extra Knights Grand Commander, their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Connaught and the Duke of Cambridge. —Press Commissioner.

MR. A. GOVINDA ROW of Madras is an original soul. He has shown a power of combined loyalty and opposition, benevolence and business, in the same breath in one harmonious whole. He celebrated the Jubilee in honor of our "Beloved Sovereign" by reminding Queen and people of the Income Tax, by distributing, free of charge, copies of his Income Tax Vade Mecum. A sly hint with a bland face.

MADAME ADELINIA PATTI netted £50,000 clear in her recent American tour.

MR. PHIROZESHAH MERWANJEE MEHTA, M. A., is *Gazetted* an Additional Member of the Bombay Governor's Council.

THE Government is being ready for a railway from Peshawar to Jamrud. The order has been passed for the preliminary survey.

THE Seventh Sale of Opium, the Provision of 1884-85 and 1885-86, comes off on Monday, the 4th July next.

IT is understood that out of fifty-three millions of Indian four per cents. forty-eight millions have consented to the conversion to three-and-a-half per cent.

AT Umritsur, they would pray daily for the son of RUNJEET SINGH. But since DHULEEP has gone over to Russia, it is said they have ceased invoking divine blessing on him.

THERE have been defalcations in the Bombay Paper Currency Office, to the extent of some thousands. One THOMAS, a trusted European clerk, is being tried on charges of fraud, perjury, &c.

THE Bengal Chamber of Commerce have returned the Hon'ble ROBERT STEEL as a Commissioner for making Improvements in the Port of Calcutta, in the place of Mr. H. B. H. TURNER who has ceased to act.

A SIMLA Correspondent of a contemporary thus writes on Simla:—

"We have at Simla so much good acting off the stage that I, for one, refuse to believe that there can be any real lack of actors when their services are required for the new Gaiety Theatre."

FRANCE and Russia have threatened to go to war if the Sultan ratifies the Egyptian Convention. Sir HENRY DRUMMOND WOLFE has extended the time for ratification to the end of the Bâram festival which falls this day.

WE learn from the *Tirhoot Courier* that Baboo TARA PRASAD MOOKERJEE has been appointed Chairman of the Chupra Local Board. If this gentleman is the local pleader of the name, what of the Gautam Asram—the Sanskrit school of Philosophy in memory of the great Rishi founder of our system of Logic who taught there—which, started, with the help of local subscriptions, by Baboo TARAPRASAD, was opened with such *clat* by Sir RIVERS THOMPSON?

A QUEER misprint occurs in the *Sind Times* of the 18th instant, in an editorial note on the late disaster in the Bay. Our contemporary is made to say—

"From particulars published by our contemporary of the *Reis and Rayyet* we find that some of the highest families of Calcutta have been losers by this marriage, [sic] and that in some instances whole families have been lost in this great disaster."

BABU RAM GOPAL SANYAL, the author of the recently published *Life of KRISTODAS PAL*, is engaged on an account in Bengali of the lives of HURRI CHUNDER MOOKERJEE and KRISTODAS PAL. The book will contain nearly 120 pages.

We are glad to hear from the author that Raja RAJENDRA NARAIN ROY Bahadur, the well known Zemindar of Bhowal in the district of Dacca, has offered to pay Rs. 75, towards the cost.

EVERYTHING in the New World is on a colossal scale. On May 26, at New York there was a fire at the Belt Line Car Company stables destroying 1,600 horses and almost all the tram cars on the premises.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

Two blocks of buildings facing the stables also caught the fire and were destroyed. It is quite possible the fire was the work of some heartless wretch who wanted to stimulate a trade. The aggregate loss is estimated at one million dollars.

THE Nihilists have taken to incendiarism :—

"Telegrams from St. Petersburg speak of a series of incendiary fires in the new quarters round the Russian capital. Twelve villas were reduced to ashes in the Lessnol quarter, about thirty villas in a suburb near the Sampsonieffski Prospect, and over twenty villas in other suburbs. The fires were lighted by Nihilists, who warned the inhabitants three days in advance, by means of leaflets distributed on Sunday night in the streets."

OLD wines fetch fancy prices. At a recent sale in London, several lots of champagne magnums, Perrier Jouet, 1874, reserve *cuvée*, sold at from 570s. per dozen to 790s., and one lot reached 800s.; Pommery, 1874, at 270s.; Of the clarets Chateau Latour, 1875, 120s.; Leoville, 1864, 180s.; Lafitte, 1864, 160s. to 180s. Sherries sold well—Amon-tillado, J. Alcott, 79s. to 84s. per dozen; Domecq's golden 50 years in wood, bottled 1868 in half bottles, at 104s. per dozen; some lots rather less. Hocks—Steinberg Cabinet, 1862, half-bottles, 78s.; bottles of 1857, M. Auerbach, 125s. per dozen.

MR. A. C. TUTE, late of Jessore, now Magistrate at Balasore, has opened a Fund in the interest of the Jagannath Pilgrim and named after them, for the immediate opening of pilgrim hospitals at Chandbally and subsequently of other hospitals elsewhere and the "resuscitation of the *dharamsalas* originally erected by pious men in days of old, but now falling to ruin, and the re-excavation and protection of tanks on the road to Pooree." The Jagannath pilgrims have now by terrible sacrifice extorted the attention of Government officers, and we thank Mr. TUTE for thinking on behalf of the pilgrim sufferers. He appeals to the charity of the Hindu for the means.

PRINCE BISMARCK is not the savage he is represented to be. We read :—

"It appears that two young English ladies living in Dresden, went to Berlin on a visit, and, wishing to make the most of their time, wrote to the Chancellor, expressing their fervent wish to see him; whereupon they received an invitation to his palace, where they were most kindly received. A servant took them through the palace, and showed them everything of interest, with which they were, of course, greatly delighted; their joy culminating when Prince Bismarck himself suddenly appeared and addressed them most kindly in fluent English, walking with them for sometime in the garden before bidding them farewell."

AS was expected, the Board of Revenue both the members Messrs. HALHIDAY and BEAMES—have strongly recommended the adoption of Lala BUNBEHARI KAPUR's only son for the Budwan Raj. The Board hold that the Punjab customs still rule in the Budwan Raj family and that the family have not adopted the law of their domicile of settlement. They find that the "Punjab Courts have accepted, as a general custom prevalent throughout the Punjab, the adoption of a sister's son as valid." They also hold that the "minor Maharani is a perfectly free agent in the case, and she is willing and anxious for the adoption of Lala BUN BEHARI's son as proposed," and that the "proposed adoption will certainly meet with general approval."

HERE is good advice from the leading French medical journal :

"Water should be drunk cool, but noticed, with the juice of a quarter of a half a lemon in it. Mineral water should also be drunk with a dash of lemon. Water should always be swallowed slowly. It is not the stomach which is dry, but the mouth and throat. If you toss off a drink of water, you throw it through your mouth into your stomach without doing the former any good, while you injure the latter by loading it with what it does not require. Drink slowly and keep the water in your mouth for a moment when you begin."

That goes counter to POPES celebrated advice. The liquid of the fountains of knowledge is evidently different from the mixture of oxygen and hydrogen that supports human life.

THE Picts have not all died out. Their remaining representatives appear to have sacrificed themselves to the good of their country by shipping themselves all in a body to the East. Like the refugee Guebres from Old Iran, they landed on the Western coast of India. They survive to this day in the Inspector-General of Jails, Bombay, who still insists, as he has been recommending for some years past, on tattooing old offenders—for identification. Lord REAY

is not, however, prepared yet to sanction the barbarism but would await a longer experience of the new rules sanctioned by the Government of India on that behalf.

ANOTHER liberality of Sir DINSHAW MANOCKJI PETIT, the Sheriff of Bombay, is announced. He has promised Rs. 10,000 towards the building Fund of the Bombay Gymnastic Institution.

HERE is a list of the cost and duration of each of several tied head-dresses in use in the British Army. The bear-skin, which lends such an imposing air to the Foot Guards, costs £4 9s., and lasts six years, so that every Foot Guards man is provided with head-gear at an annual cost of 14s. 10d. Next, the "feather bonnet" of the Highlanders costs £2 9s. 3d., and lasts eight years, or 9s. 3½d. for each year. The brass helmet of the Household Cavalry, perhaps the most uncomfortable head-dress in existence both when the sun shines fiercely and when the weather is cold, is purchased for £1 0s. 2d., which spread over the period of eight years, for which it lasts, brings the cost down to 2s. 6½d. a year per man.

THIS is the result of the consensus of opinion obtained by the *Pall Mall Gazette* :—

"1. The best historical novel, Scott: "Ivanhoe." 2. The best humorous novel, Dickens: "Pickwick." 3. The most imaginative romance, Rider Haggard: "She." 4. The best "novel with purpose," Charles Read: "Never too Late to Mend." 5. The best tale of seafaring life, Maryat: "Midshipman Easy." 6. The best tale of country life of George Eliot: "Adam Bede." 7. The best sensational novel, Wilkie Collins: "Woman in White." 8. The best tale for boys, Defoe: "Robinson Crusoe." 9. The best Irish novel, Lever: "Charles O'Malley." 10. The best Scotch novel, Scott: "The Heart of Midlothian." 11. The best novel of all, Thackeray "Vanity Fair."

That will be a tolerably good guide to the young student. The books to which the palm of supreme excellence has been awarded are all good books beyond question. Of course, individual tastes may give the preference to others in some cases. Thus, some may rank *Rienzi* above *Ivanhoe*. In fact, every one of the awards is debatable, with the sole exception of that in favor of that master of realism De-Foe's hit. For our part, we need scarcely say that we recognise the justice of most of the verdicts. Only, we stick to our early love *Tom Jones*. In our poor judgment, that story—an epic in prose—is simply perfect.

EARLY this month, the Hon'ble Mr. J. B. PEILE introduced, in the Supreme Council, a Bill for the Protection of Games. It is proposed to authorize Local Governments with respect to any Municipality or Cantonment or the municipal authority or cantonment-authority of any Municipality or Cantonment, with the previous sanction of the Local Government, to make rules—

- "(a) defining the word 'game' for the purposes of this Act in its application to the municipality or cantonment;
- (b) defining for those purposes the breeding season of any kind of game; and
- (c) prohibiting, absolutely or subject to conditions, the possession or sale within the municipality or cantonment of any kind of game during its breeding season, or the importation into the municipality or cantonment of the fur or plumage of any kind of game during such season."

Breach of rules is to be punished with fine of Rs. 5 for every head of game, but no prosecution is to be instituted except by those making the rules, or authorized by them for the purpose. The admitted object is to justify and legalize a practice which has grown up for many years past in Northern India rather than to introduce a new measure. Yet the Bill does not, in as many words, sanction the existing practice and grant protection for the past.

THE poor Amlah of Tirhoot must be in a pretty state of alarm. Those of the Collectorate in especial have come under the evil eye. Just now the Peshkar of Durbirunga is being dragged under the harrows of a criminal prosecution before the Joint-Magistrate, for a trifle illegally received as alleged some years ago. Our Tirhoot contemporary says—

"The evidence of a number of witnesses was recorded on the 17th and the case was adjourned for one day to enable the prosecution to produce his remaining witnesses; but on the case being called on for hearing the next day it appeared that the prosecution was still unable to produce his other evidence and so the hearing had to be postponed to the 27th."

How poor ISSUR DUTT must wish he was a Commissioner or a member of the Board, instead of a starved Peshkar! In that case nobody

could have thought him so mean as to content himself with a trifle. And the dignity of a goodly sum would have at once vindicated his taste and the propriety of his conduct before all honourable men.

Our contemporary adds :—

"It appears that Babu Baramdeo Narain, the Income-tax Deputy Collector, is making strenuous exertions to obtain incriminating evidence against Peshkar Issur Dutt and the income-tax clerks of Mozufferpore."

We hope this Baboo does not live in a crystal bungalow himself. There is a significant Bengali adage—In digging for worms, one not unfrequently draws out the hooded serpent against himself.

DEWAN RAMAH ROW of Travancore emphatically contradicts the report quoted in our last week's issue about the assault by SARAVANI, the Palace Manager, upon His Highness the Maha Rajah. He writes to the *Malabar and Travancore Spectator*—"It is altogether without foundation."

THE latest news from Burma as telegraphed to the *Englishman* is that

"A brilliant affair from Toungdwingyee is reported. Subadar Brindraband Tewarry, of the 33rd Bengal Infantry, commanding at Natmouk, received information that a large body of dakaits had assembled at a village a few miles north. With a handful of men he surrounded the village so completely, surprising the dakaits, that the whole gang, 214 men, surrendered without resistance."

ABOUT three weeks ago a correspondent of the *Indian Daily News* said that Mr. PEACOCK, Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, had addressed the following letter to several of the titled residents in Calcutta :—

"At the desire of the Viceroy, the Lieutenant-Governor directs me to ask what will be your subscription to the Imperial Institute. An early reply is solicited."

The *Hindu* of Madras reported that the revenue officers are bringing to bear the whole weight of their official position to promote the subscriptions for the Jubilee. The following translation of a circular issued by a tehsildar in the Tanjore District will show how the system is worked.

"At a meeting held at the Taluq Cutcherry at 2 P. M., on the 12th instant, to concert measures for the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee it was decided that the mirassidars should each subscribe to the Jubilee Fund in proportion to their respective holdings at the rate of 8 annas per *valli*. For the purpose of making the collections from the mirassidars as above and granting them receipts, printed forms of receipts having my signature are despatched herewith. The forms are in duplicate of which the one is to be utilized for granting receipts to those mirassidars who pay their subscriptions, and the other is to be kept as vouchers for the money received and should be returned along with the collections before the 25th instant. The substance of this should be explained to all the mirassidars, and the monegars will make a list of the lands held by those pattadhars who have not paid their subscriptions as above. The 16th and 17th instant being holidays there will be enough of time for making the collection and the monegars should bring in their respective collections in the order of dates mentioned below :—Nannijam, Chengalipuram, Kootharoor and Vee-rakudy on the 18th; Thathur, Kotavasal, Thimmaruthal, Sarabojirajapuram, Thirukannaimangai and Perumalnagaram on the 19th instant; Vikkrabandiam, Thirukalanibur, Polakam and Polum on the 22nd."

THE latest improvement—a pocket photographer :—

"I saw a machine which can be carried in a man's waistcoat pocket, and which takes an instantaneous photograph of anybody or anything by merely touching a spring. You can photograph a group of fifty people in a second, and not a living soul can tell what you have been doing. The inventor actually photographed the Queen in the act of getting into her carriage on Wednesday, and on Thursday he took me for a walk down Regent-street and in ten minutes he had fifty photographs taken of groups and of single individuals that we had met. He tells me he can photograph the finish of the Derby, the discharge of a revolver, the fall of a man from the top of a house, the sneeze of a cat, the wag of a dog's tail, the twitching of a man's ear, a flash of lightning, or the fall of a thunderbolt. The instantaneous photographs I saw him take were simply marvellous, and one which was taken haphazard will possibly become historical. 'See those two gentlemen whispering together at that street corner,' the photographer exclaimed. Then he whipped his apparatus out of his waistcoat-pocket, and touched the spring. The thing was done. That evening I showed me a proof of the photograph. I started back. One gentleman was the editor of the *Times*. In his hand was distinctly observable a letter signed 'C. S. Parnell.' In the other gentleman's hand was a bank-note for £100. I recognised him as—Prudence forbids. But the instantaneous photograph had been taken at the moment of a transaction which throws considerable light upon some recent articles on 'Parnellism and Crime.'"

The special correspondent of an English paper who gives that account manages to turn the table completely against the Irish Rint. ought to get a pension from the Irish Rint.

No end to man's ingenuity in the science of killing !

"Herr Fortelka, the inventor of a repeating rifle which is attracting a good deal of attention among Austrian military men, is a remarkable instance of the wonders that can be performed by blind men. He was a Lieutenant in the Austrian Army, and during the first campaign in Bosnia he received a bullet in his right eye, which destroyed the optic nerve and so affected the left eye that he speedily became totally blind. Yet since his blindness he has invented, in addition to the magazine-rifle, a new micrometer, an apparatus for automatic mapping, a new sort of gunpowder, two machines for the anti-oxidation of metals at a small cost, and a number of smaller devices. 'When either great or minute measurements are in question,' says Herr Fortelka, 'those who see with their eyes are often wrong, while I, who see with my fingers, am right.' The models of his inventions have been entirely made by himself with the help of pieces of wood, string and wire."

THEY have a school at Patna called the Anglo-Arabic School. It was opened in March 1884 on the model of the Aligarh Collegiate School "for the secular instruction of the members of all creeds, also for the religious education of Sunnis and Shiabs, with special provision for imparting to Mohammadis (Wahabis) religious teaching based upon their own principles." In two years the school numbered 97 Sunnis, 29 Shiabs, 26 Muhammadis, and 47 Hindus. In January, 1886, the Muhammadan Education Committee of Patna petitioned the Bengal Government for aid for a building site by a grant of the interest of the Behar Industrial School Fund, a money grant from the Wahabi Fund, and by a grant-in-aid from public funds.

Sir STEUART BAYLEY has now sanctioned a grant-in-aid of Rs. 100 a month, with effect from the 1st July 1886, a donation of Rs. 15,000 from the Wahabi Fund, formed from the proceeds of forfeited estates, and another Rs. 5,000 from the same (Wahabi) Fund for acquiring the land. The Rs. 15,000 will be invested in the name of the Comptroller-General and the interest paid over, till the institution is proved to be permanently established, when the principal will be made over to the managers. The gentlemen who interested themselves most in founding the School are Nawab Syed WILAYAT ALI KHAN, C. I. E., Moulvi Syed AHMED HOSSEIN, Moulvi MAHOMED HOSSEIN, Moulvi KHODA BAKSH, Khan Bahadar.

## Editorial Notes.

A FULL Bench of the High Court have decided against the simultaneous adoption by the two widow Ranis of the deceased Raja BEJOY KESHUB of Andool. Each of them took a son and bound themselves by an agreement not to take exception to such simultaneous adoption. One of them having died, the surviving widow claimed the whole estate and questioned the validity of the adoption. The High Court have now found her contention correct and declared her the sole heir. The adoptions being bad in law, no agreement between the adopting parties can make them good. The case of course goes to the Privy Council.

THE suit against the Corporation of Dacca for misapplication of the Municipal Fund for the reception of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON in February 1886, has commenced. It is being heard by the Additional Munsiff Syed ABDUR RAHMAN, Barrister-at-law. The Secretary Mr. SARKIES has been examined as the first witness on behalf of the Plaintiffs. His examination shows that the Commissioners had on previous and subsequent occasions drawn on the Fund for similar purposes not strictly municipal. But that, we think, ought not to affect the main question in the suit, namely, whether they are sanctioned by the Municipal Act.

THE following letter, which explains itself, has been addressed by the Chief Secretary, Government of Bengal, to the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta :—

"I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 8103, dated the 30th May 1887 with its enclosure, from Nawab Mir Mohamed Ali, one of the Honorary and Presidency Magistrates, in which he takes exception to the action of Mr. O. C. Dutt on a recent occasion in having prevented him from expressing in open court the reasons for his dissent from the judgment of that gentleman as Chairman of a Bench. In reply I am to say that the Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that, although one Honorary Magistrate may be overruled by another Honorary Magistrate if the latter is Chairman, there is nothing to prevent the former from giving his reasons for not being able to agree with his colleague. Indeed, his doing so would seem to be a matter of course. There seems no necessity, therefore, for making the addition to Rule 6 of the Rules for the guidance of Benches of Magistrates in Calcutta suggested in your letter, but I am to request that the view expressed above may be acted upon should occasion require."





We hope that will be a warning to all overbearing citizens disposed to abuse a momentary advantage of position, and, above all, to the bench clerk who is at once so useful and so contemptuous to the Honoraries. Mr. DUTT must feel the blow all the more for the evident hesitation of the hand that deals it. What a contrast between his treatment in open court of his colleague on the bench, Nawab MIR MAHOMED, and the Government treatment of him! We trust Sir STEWART BAYLEY'S Administration will preserve the same considerate tone to the last in its dealings with the people. A young Secretary with a turn for truculent epigram and unseasonable sarcasm will, in a week, wreck the reputation of any Chief, however able and well-meaning. Secretary MACKENZIE'S taunt to Calcutta has not yet been forgotten, nor forgiven.

THE ingenuity of the Chinese is proverbial in the East. The Indo-Chinese in the shadow of the Flowery land, are scarcely inferior, it would seem. The Europeans have made stools and chairs tuneful under pressure. The Anamese actually fly kites breathing harmony. We find in the papers:—

"The musical kite of the Annamites in Tonkin furnishes a favourite amusement for both children and men. The kite is of peculiar construction, and has attached to it a reed pipe, into both ends of which the air rushes, producing a sound that is audible at a great distance."

That is original and leaves the West far behind. It shows not only a feeling for music, but also a fine imaginative turn. These Ultra Orientals love music both wisely and too well. They scorn the low trick of the Occidentals apparently singing by the wrong end. Instead, they make the heavens melodious with flying kites.

THE Brahmans of Maharastra are the backbone of the population on that side. Their influence is paramount, and their intelligence and force of character are equal. There is not a class that more overflows with genuine ability. One observer among us, himself a type of Lower Gangetic sharpness, having been one of the noted detectives in the Bengal Police, gave the palm of 'cuteness to his own people. He is a man of strong likes and dislikes, and we believe in this judgment he has, though warned by us, been unable to emancipate himself from his provincial partialities and his usual contempt for the understandings of other races. Our own impression—though we pretend to have had not opportunities for personal knowledge to speak of—is that these Western Brahmans are not only not in the least inferior to the Bengalis but are, to some extent, in some particulars, distinctly superior. Indeed, we have not in Bengal a picked class like them.

The famous Brahmans of Poona, the aversion of illiberal politicians and the terror of incompetent and misdoing officials, are just now under irritation from the revival of an exploded calumny. A local European journal has brought itself to a momentary notice by its denunciation of them. The *Poona Observer* has itself long ceased to carry any weight, but then there were others to give it a temporary lift by reproducing and recommending its strictures. The *Bombay Gazette* was the first to unearth the scandalous remarks. This is at once becoming and unbecoming. It is in keeping with the old traditions of the great Bombay reviler of the people. Indeed, it was the brilliant philosopher of the *Gazette*, who is now one of the most promising members of the House of Commons on the Conservative side, who had been the original offender—the first to start the bugbear of the Brood of Vipers, as he elegantly styled the great Brahmans of the city of the Peshwa.

The Poona Brahmans know how to defend themselves. Perhaps the next quarterly issue of the Sarvajaniak Sabha will contain an elaborate defence. Meanwhile, there is a calm leader in the weekly *Dnyan Prakash*, which goes into the origin of the suspicion against an useful and estimable class. It contains a curious history of a prejudice. Our contemporary begins:—

"It was during the administrations of Sir Philip Wodehouse and Sir Richard Temple, but more especially during the administration of the latter, that the Poona Brahmans, as the expression goes, were most under a cloud. It may even be added that under Sir James Fergusson's administration also they continued under that cloud to some extent during the first half of that *regime*, when 'that evil genius' of Sir James Fergusson's administration—we mean Mr. L. R. Ashburner—retired from the Bombay Civil Service. This period ranged from the commencement of 1875 to the end of 1882. In January 1875 the ill-fated Malhar Rao Gaikwad of Baroda was arrested and kept under surveillance on the charge of having attempted to poison Col. (now Sir) R. Phayre, then Resident at Baroda. Three months later he was finally deposed and deported to Madras. The people of Poona, bearing in mind the historical relations of this city with Baroda and its rulers, deemed it their duty to assist Malhar Rao in the hour of

his trial, as they believed him to be innocent of the foul charge laid at his door, and the more especially because they apprehended that the accused would not have fair play. The whole question is now a matter of history, and an impartial historian will have to admit that the apprehensions of the Poona people were fully realized; for though he was acquitted by his own peers and by the Secretary of State for India himself of the foul charge laid at his door, he was not re-instated, but was deposed on the ground of his being an incapable ruler, though two-thirds of the period of probation allowed to him to set his house in order and to prove his capacity had remained unexpired."

Then for the culmination!

"During Sir Richard Temple's administration this distrust and suspicion of the Poona Brahmans, unfounded and undignified though it was, became quite a creed with Government, cherished with all the enthusiasm and blindness of bigotted bureaucrats. It reached its climax in the summer of 1879 when the unfortunate fires of that year cast a lurid glare over the horizon. We need not recount here the absurd lengths to which the then administration allowed itself to proceed, utterly unmindful of what it owed to its own dignity and prestige, if not to common sense and prudence. And when in April 1880 Sir James Fergusson assumed the reins of the administration Mr. Ashburner managed to keep the feeling more or less alive till his retirement, when a complete change took place in the attitude of Government towards this city, its people, and their leaders, perhaps in no small measure due to some unknown inspiration from above.

"Ever since then down to the present time we have had no cause for complaint; on the contrary we have had several unmistakeable proofs that the old policy of gratuitous suspicion and undignified distrust had given way completely to one of generous confidence and mutual trustfulness. The latest of these unmistakeable proofs was the offer made in November last to the Deccan Education Society of this city to receive full charge, unhampered by any conditions, of the Deccan College. What! an old institution like the Deccan College giving higher education to all classes of people—Brahmins, Marathas, Mahomedans, Parsis &c.—to be transferred to the management and control of the staff of the Fergusson College which consists of youthful Poona Brahmans,—'that brood of vipers'?"

Well may the writer ask in wonder!

"And what is the head and front of their offence? They hold certain views on the question of Hindu social reform, which the writer of the contribution under notice, and others of his class look on as absolute heresy and as inconsistent with their professions of loyalty to the British Government!"

There is nothing like the prejudice of civilization when it is powerful, or the bigotry of reform when it has the opportunity.

THE Odessa Correspondent of the *Daily News* relates a horrible story. About two months back, rather suddenly died—to all intents and purposes—Major MAJUROFF, aide-de-camp to the Governor-General, Odessa. He was buried with all military honours no less than forty hours after his supposed death. After he had been a fortnight in the grave, the family vault in the cemetery had to be repaired and done up in view of the Russian *Mahalaya* or universal *Sradh*—*Fête des Morts*. During this operation a workman was startled by a sound truly sepulchral, for it issued from the coffin. Then the coffin lid was noticed to have been partly forced open. The body was found face downwards, and the face dreadfully lacerated, and the flesh gnawed from the hands. The wounds were fresh and still bleeding. Evidently the unfortunate major died only on the instant previous to the strange discovery. The man recovered from his death trance too late—in the tomb. For sustenance in his too close underground prison, he lived on his own body. For fourteen days he maintained life by eating the flesh of his own hands. But it was all in vain. For he died as soon as deliverance was at hand—just as the lid was opened.

Procrastination is not only the thief of time, it may be the death of us. Here is terrible proof of the adage, Delay is dangerous. Major MAJUROFF might be living still, had the vault been earlier opened. He really died when succour was at hand. A miss of the right moment in either case was fatal.

THE English reading public must be interested to know how the present politics of Hyderabad are regarded in the great Mahomedan world of Hindostan. Our Mahomedan brethren of Upper India are more directly interested in the affairs of that great Mussulman kingdom and they have unusual opportunities of knowing about them. We have much pleasure in laying before our readers a translation, made especially for this journal, of an article in one of the most intelligent and influential papers of Oudh:—

(From the *Musheer-i-Kaisar* of Lucknow, dated 7th June 1887.)

ANOTHER ACT OF GENEROSITY OF THE NIZAM GOVERNMENT.

WHAT generosity the Nizam Government has shown in its treatment towards Sir Salar Jung is already known to the public. But now there is another instance of a similar act of generosity and it is this, that it has pardoned the crime and remitted the fine of Sultan Nawaz Jung.

Well, that the attributes of forgiveness, mercy and generosity are good, admits of no question. For the Korán speaks of those "who bridle their anger, and forgive men : for God loveth the beneficent." But of course we have one apprehension, and it is this, that perhaps some influential official having become a spiritual monitor as it were, and taking a present of some five or ten lakhs, may not be causing such things to be done. The matter certainly is worth enquiring into. Probably there were also certain persons who had made Sir Salar Jung a mere puppet in their hands, while they themselves did everything. What wonder, if at present too they have succeeded in making a similar puppet of the Nizam too ! Otherwise there is no reason why the burden of fifty or more lakhs of Rupees should fall on the Treasury. Such a thing has no precedent even in great Kingdoms.

We again urge that the Government of the Nizam should anyhow, for precaution's sake, dispense with the services of all the present officers, and make a total reorganization ; for we cannot make out any thing of this puzzle. As it appears to us, there is probably a large clique of Freemasons in Hyderabad who are all of a uniform nature, and as long as they are not all removed from their offices, the (Talisman) charm will not be broken. It is the misfortune of the treasury that it has to suffer in various ways. Hitherto lakhs of rupees were being spent in unnecessary salaries and allowances. Now money is also being squandered away after extravagant pensions and remissions. Let us see what happens next. This is but the very "commencement of love."

HAVE they discovered a virgin vein in Golconda ? There is no end to the liberality of the Deccan Government. Here is another proof in a copy of an official document :

ORDER OF HIS HIGHNESS.  
FOR PUBLICATION IN THE JARIDA.

In consideration of the eminent and faithful services rendered to the State for several years by the Nawab Mohsin-ool Moolk Bahadoor, Political and Financial Secretary, His Highness has been graciously pleased to raise that officer's salary to Government Rs. 2,800 per mensem. His Highness takes this opportunity of expressing his deep appreciation of the good work that has been done for the State by the Nawab, and of the very satisfactory manner in which he has discharged the arduous and responsible duties entrusted to him.

By order,  
(Sd.) C. H. T. MARSHALL,  
Secretary to His Highness.

May 13th, 1887.

We wish Nawab MEHDI ALI joy of his increase of Rs. 1,000, though a few hundreds more or less really matters little to a man of his means. It would be more to the purpose if he could regard this liberality of his master a true mark of favour. But can he honestly and seriously so take it ? We are free to confess our doubts. The dark, narrow, zigzag paths of Hyderabad politics rarely show any landmarks for guidance. Such "footprints on the sands of Time" as are discernible, are ominous. The etiquette of royal favour at that court seems to follow the rule of the lighted taper that burns brightest before extinction. Thus, SALAR JUNG II. was recognised as more than an Oriental PITT—a Heaven-born statesman—independent of training or experience—and petted as a prodigy and knighted for his—luck, just before he was hurled down. His fall was a forgone conclusion when he was being overwhelmed with *kudos*. In another moment the scene changes ! And behold the magnificent Minister—the pet of the Residency and the *protégé* of successive Viceroys in Council—the idol of the Press—turning up on the distant Arabian Sea coast—a runaway from the kingdom—a fugitive from office !

Is there no moral in all this ? no warning in this sudden Hegirah of the boy-minister to those whom he has left behind in the administrative lurch ?

HER Majesty's Jubilee, which we anticipated in India on the 16th February, last, took place at the appointed time, the 21st of this month of June, when the Fifty Years' Reign was completed. It was a great pageant, as good as the Saxon impatience of scenic demonstrations and the waning of loyalty in modern times could make it. It was a grander Lord Mayor's Show. The attendance of foreign sovereigns was comparatively poor—falling far short of the gathering in Paris in NAPOLEON III's time. One could scarcely discern in the business the Empire on which the sun never sets. The element of barbaric splendour was supplied by a few Anglicised Indian Chiefs, headed by the Queen of the—Sandwich Islands !

The graciousness of the throne too has been niggard to a degree. There were no benevolences, nor gifts, nor grants, nor favours of any

kind to speak of. Even the shower of titular honours fondly expected by many was withheld. Such titles as have been given, were confined to the Royal Family. A few crumbs, of strained good will have been thrown to the native army. Clearly, the ministry showed no enthusiasm in the *Tamasha*.

HER Majesty's lieges here have shown unusual good feeling and loyalty. The Queen's Birth-day was kept up at Calcutta by a garden party given by the new head of the city, Mr. COTTON. The General Jubilee has been celebrated in the Hindu community by Raja SOURINDRO MOHAN TAGORE Bahadoor, and in the Mahomedan by Prince RAHMOODDEEN, the patriarch of the Mysore Princes. Sir SOURINDRO, as the recipient of honours from every known and unknown power, appropriately got up a truly international exhibition. The Prince's party was more select and of course was thoroughly enjoyed by those who could attend at the short notice at such a distance. It is not a little to the credit of the Prince that he should have taken all this trouble at his age and during the height of the Ramadan, at the end of a month's continual fast during the day—all for the Christian Queen.

THE motion on the cruel order of Mr. HOLMWOOD published in our issue of the 4th instant, in the Baranagar municipal election affray, was taken up by Judge GARRET this forenoon. He has decided to recommend to the High Court the acquittal of MOHENDER NATH GANGOOLY and a fine of Rs. 5 each on JOGEN, NOGEN and DOVAL, all four of whom were sentenced each to one month's imprisonment.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1887.

### AN INDIAN PAY RULE IN PARLIAMENT.

THE crying wrongs of great Princes and large populations in Asia do not often so much as reach the British shores. A conversation in Parliament on the greatest Indian topics is a rare rarity. But—thanks to Sir R. LETHBRIDGE, once an educational officer in Bengal—the grievances of a couple of native schoolmasters has been lifted up to Parliamentary dignity.

The grievance though personal is typical. The two-thirds pay rule is sometimes most mischievous in its operation. It has, it appears, been applied where it was never meant to be in force, and the practical duty of seeing to the execution of the rule seems to be devolved upon the Financial Department. This Department of arithmetic has, however, been betrayed into instances of blind and indiscriminate application which require to be corrected by higher authority. Notably has this been the case in regard to the now well-known cases of Baboos RADHIKA PRASANNA MOOKERJEE and BRAHMA MOHAN MULLICK.

No decision has yet been arrived at on the question of pay of these two native educational officers who have been promoted to the superior graded service. It is indeed a mockery of a promotion. These gentlemen have promotion in rank, not merely without a corresponding increase, but at a practical reduction of their emoluments. Well has Mr. CROFT, Director of Public Instruction, called their promotion a penalty. The hardship of the case was lately made the subject of an interpellation in the House of Commons.

"Sir R. Lethbridge asked the Under-Secretary for India whether the rule that natives of India, when appointed to posts usually held by Europeans should draw only two-thirds of the pay of their appointments, had operated in Bengal in such a way as to inflict a pecuniary fine on two Native officers, who had recently been promoted from the subordinate educational service to the superior or graded educational service for exceptional merit and ability ; and, with reference to the statement of the late Under-Secretary on the subject in February 23, 1886, whether the Government of India had taken any measures to carry out the instructions of the Secretary of State ?

Sir J. Gorst : The Secretary of State is not aware of any specific cases in Bengal, where the rule has operated in the manner described. The instructions of the Secretary of State on the subject have been referred by the Government of India to the Public Service Commission."

The question has been hanging fire for some time. So far back as the beginning of the year 1886, the same Sir ROGER LETHBRIDGE had put the same question to which Sir U. KAY-SHUTTLEWORTH gave a similar reply, namely, that the Secretary of State in Council adopted the rule in question in March 1880, in June of which year it was Gazetted, in India. About two years since, in May 1882, the rule was extended to the graded educational service. The India Office was not aware of any difficulty in Bengal, but in view of a case which had occurred in Madras, in which the salary on promotion was less than that previously drawn, the Government of India was requested sometime ago to consider how such occurrences might be prevented. The Under-Secretary added that there are many benefits besides increased salary attendant on securing a place in the graded list; and no officer need accept promotion unless he considers it to be to his advantage.

We do not know what "benefits" the late Under-Secretary of State had in view, but he evidently meant increased honor and a higher social position. These, however, are benefits that without corresponding means of maintaining their dignity, must be a constant source of embarrassment, as every man of experience well knows. But we need not combat a statement which Government would have the hardihood to hazard in regard to servants other than belonging to a subject race. How would Europeans relish the idea of a more dignified position without increased pay? The cynical tone adopted in Sir KAY-SHUTTLEWORTH'S reply shows that the question did not receive from him that calm consideration which it deserved. The subject has now advanced another stage. The Government of India has referred it to the Finance Committee. We do not know what view has been taken by the Committee, but whatever that may be, we trust the Government of India will deal with the case in a spirit of liberality. The two-thirds pay rule was originally adopted for the Statutory Civil Service. Even as regards this Service, we do not believe it is a rule which should be retained without modification. A Statutory Joint-Magistrate enjoying the same powers and dignity as his Covenanted *confrere* and discharging the same duties, can hardly feel comfortable on the lesser scale of pay, until he attains to some higher grade. The application of this rule to officers of the Education Department in the position of Circle Inspectors—men advanced in years, and within a short period of their retirement from the Service, and who have won their way to the higher grade solely by dint of their merit and distinguished service, must be specially distressing. The operation of the rule is sometimes attended with curious results as an illustration will show.

Rai Bahadur RADHIKA PRASANNA MUKHERJI, Inspector of Schools, was drawing a salary of Rs. 460 as a member of the 1st Class of the Subordinate Education Service, when he was promoted to Class IV. of the superior Service. But for such promotion, his salary would have risen to Rs. 480 in March 1886, and Rs. 500 in March 1887. If the present rule be not modified, he would not be entitled to Rs. 500 a month till 1st May 1890. Again, should circumstances compel him to retire during the next few years, he would be entitled under the rules to a lower rate of pensionary allowances than what he could have claimed before promotion. The argument that the apparent anomaly in the case of these officers would be redressed on their promotion from the 4th to the 3rd

class has little practical force, as such promotion takes place in 8 years on an average, and even if it came to any of them, it would have the effect of raising their salary to Rs. 666-10-8 after 13 years' additional service.

It is to be added that, while all other promoted officers in the Department are getting annual increments of salary, Babus B. M. MALLIK and R. P. MUKHERJI have to wait for years without any addition to their pay, although they have been deemed qualified to discharge more onerous duties than others.

In the case of the other officer, Babu BRAHMA MOHAN MALLIK, Inspector of schools, Western Circle, the rule has been enforced with an awkward *contretemps*.

The Accountant General, Bengal, held that the rule did not apply to the case of Babu BRAHMA MOHAN MALLIK who had been promoted from the 1st class of the Subordinate Educational Service to the 4th class of the higher service as Inspector of Schools, Western Circle, in February 1882. He evidently made a distinction between young professors newly appointed and the experienced officers of the Department promoted to the superior service. Under this ruling, Babu B. M. MALLIK drew two increments of pay, his salary (500—50—750) rising from Rs. 500 to Rs. 600 a month; but it was quashed by the Financial Department, Government of India, in October 1884, and his pay was in consequence reduced to Rs. 500 a month.

We have on principle been opposed to there being different rates of pay for the same work, and the more so, on the difference being based on difference of race. Equal responsibilities are in justice entitled to equal privileges and dignities. If, however, in the ends of economical administration, there be some justification for the distinction, the rule should always be carried into effect with discretion, and with due regard to circumstances. It cannot be a hard and fast rule. It may not be open to much objection in the case of young men entering the Education service in the higher grade who have an open prospect before them to stimulate their ambition. Even as regards these, it may not be without mischief. To youths of exceptionally brilliant talents, the reduced scale of pay will offer no sufficient attraction for entering the education service in preference to other careers. As regards old servants of the Government who have not to serve or live long, the symmetrical exactitude of the Financial Department can work but mischief.

#### THE LATE DISASTER AT SEA.

##### THE LOST—AND THE SAVED.

It is scarcely necessary to insist on the importance of having full particulars of the loss of the *Sir John Lawrence*. As no one has survived the disaster, it is difficult to know the truth. But surely the agents ought to have furnished a list of the passengers. But they make no sign, apparently thinking their duty ended with promptly subscribing a Rs. 1000 to the Relief Fund as soon as it was opened. The Port Officer says there were 732 passengers, and the Government takes the figure on trust, without asking unpleasant questions. We, in the public interest, cannot imitate this easiness of disposition. We must ask, How does Captain STIFFE know? The number was doubtless given by the agents. Where are the names? Is it possible that so many of the Queen's subjects were sent out to sea without keeping a list of their names? In the case of such a calamity without a survivor, the value of a list cannot be overrated. It might be of the greatest use to the families of those who left home to go on the pilgrimage to Pooree.

A list of the passengers was particularly called for in view of the rumour that many were turned out on some pretext or other. Who were these fortunate unfortunates? one could not help inquiring. The

friends of the pilgrims anxiously enquired, but could not know. As the only journal which realised the importance of the subject and tried to serve the public in this behalf, this office received communications from distant parts of the country asking for the names of those that had been turned out and other particulars and for the sources of our information. The Port Office report and the Government letter thereon are silent on the subject. Indeed, although the rumour reached us from different sides, the silence of the Port Officer and the Government of Bengal disheartened us and led us to suspect the truth of the story. Accordingly, for some days, we gave up the pursuit. But we again took up the matter and are now in a position to declare, without fear of contradiction, that passengers were turned out, most luckily for them, but in a most barbarous manner and for a sordid end, at different points. We have made many sacrifices and taken infinite pains about it, and yet our information is far from complete. Such as it is, we proceed to lay it before the public.

The passengers thus providentially saved by the avarice of the management, are the following :—

Rajpore.—Bholanath Chuckerbutty's mother; Paran Chunder Woodhub's wife; Ramtrahi Chuckerbutty's mother; Doorga Churn Chuckerbutty's mother; Prasanna widow; Jagender Nath Ghose's father's sister *alias* Bamadidi.

Harinavi.—Madoosoodun Kasyup's wife.

Sonarpore.—Dwarka Goala's mother, aunt, sister.

Nischindipore.—Sadananda Goala's mother; Sagoredas Goala's mother; Rampetal's wife; Jadub Chunder Patay's wife and an aunt-in-law.

Calcutta, Darjipara.—Ramdhone Bose's niece; Chunder Coomar Chuckerbutty, his wife and daughter.

They all purchased tickets and went on board at 9 P. M. Their friends who came to see them off, left them after a tinte. Late at night, a sudden call was made on them for another fare each. They showed their tickets but to no purpose; they must pay once more. They refused and were ordered out. They passed the night at the Ghat. Next morning, they found a steamer bound for Midnapore, and not wishing to forfeit their pilgrimage, they took passage in it and reached Pooree without a single loss. They left their *Sir John Lawrence* tickets with a friend whom they met in the Ghat. This man recovered the amount.

A number of others were turned out at Oolooberiah.

Of those who sailed down to the sea only four, so far as we have been able to ascertain, have been saved. It appears that a number of the passengers were on the upper deck when the cyclone overtook the steamer. They attempted to get down but the passages were all closed. In the rocking of the vessel and the dashing of waves, many fell into the sea. Of these four were washed up into the high shore. There they remained insensible. When they recovered, the ship which was near the shore and had once struck ground and lain on its side, was not visible, having been carried far into the sea. This was the Balasore coast, whence these four slowly trudged along to the shrine of their destination. These lucky four are natives of Jonye or its neighbourhood.

Since we last wrote on the subject, we have been unceasing in our efforts to ascertain as to who were on board the *Sir John Lawrence* when she foundered, and are able to fix on many of them. Besides those mentioned in our issue of the 11th, there were the following passengers :—

Sobhabazar.—Surbeswar Nyayaratna's sister and daughter. Moheswari, daughter of Champa Bewa, Aswini Tanti, Sillampooker.

Baugbazar.—Bissonath Ghose's daughter; Issur Bose's daughter. Mr. Woodroffe's Baboo Dindoyal's sister; Mr. O. C. Mullik's (Barister) mother and deceased brother's widow.

Sankaritola.—Rajkristo Dutt, (Head Assistant, Dy. Commissioner's office) mother and sister-in-law; Brindaban Ghose's wife and daughter.

Simla.—Kedarnath Ghose's sister and mother-in-law.

Bhowanipore.—Bhooban Mohan Banerjee's daughter; Nobin Chunder Dey's two sisters; Brindaban C. Karimokar's (Pleader, Small Cause Court, Calcutta) mother and aunt.

Jaunbazar.—Rakhaldas Burdon's mother, aunt and brother's wife; Koylas C. Burdon's aunt and wife; Khetternath Shea's father and mother. Three female members of Hullothur Roy's family. Nine ditto of Jogendro Nath Mitter's.

Hooghly District.—Three women (Gandabania) of Inchoora, near Boinchee. Four ditto (Brahman) of Bashna near Balagore. Bemala Churn Mitter, his wife and sister-in-law of Atpore near Haripal. Dhurmadass Mitter's wife, Atpore.

Moorshedabad has lost a great lady of the House of Raja Gangadhar in the person of Rai Bangsidhar Ray Bahadoor's mother. She was accompanied by Ananda Bhattacharjee's son, Grish Chunder, Kristo Dey, Sowdamini Dasee, and Wooma Nath Sircar's (Cossimbazar) daughter. This Moorshedabad party of death were five in number, but ought to have been six. But man rushes to destruction and God saves. These five with a servant named Sitaram were put on

board the previous evening by a gentleman of our acquaintance, Kali Kumar Mookerjee. Sometime after, Sitaram was sent down to fetch a pitcher of holy water from the river for consumption on board. He was however unable to find his way back to the vessel, so at last wearied by his efforts, he returned late at night to Kali Kumar's residence in Burrabazar.

But the chief sufferers have been Buddypore, Burdwan District, and Barela, near Boinchi, between whom they have lost sixty inhabitants, mostly females, who embarked in the steamer. A Kayastha of Paikpara, Moonshengunge, and his wife were on board. We do not however hear of many pilgrims from the more distant parts. The bulk of the passengers came from Bengali families in the metropolis and the metropolitan districts, and consisted, besides, of Ooryas returning to their country. There have been many Oorya touters for pilgrims—Pandas from Pooree—who have been lost, with all their batches of undistinguished men and women in search of salvation. One Basudeva Panda was taking above a hundred such. A Moorshedabad friend says, that Rai Bungshedhar has heard from Calcutta, that 250 Pandas were on board, while his Chief Panda at Pooree writes to tell him that 200 Sub-Pandas who had come up to draw pilgrims are missing. One of the saddest case, is the death of a judicial officer Srinath Sen, B. L., who was going by the vessel to take up his office of Moonsiff of Jajpore.

On a former occasion, we mentioned the calamitous loss of nearly the whole family of Annada Prasad Chatterjee. It has been stated in other quarters that fifteen members have been lost. In reality eleven members went on pilgrimage with three servants, (one man servant and two maid-servants.) It is an appalling visitation. The condition of the solitary survivors is heartrending to contemplate. Annada Baboo is more dead than alive. His nephew Ashutosh, who has lost his father and mother and the rest, is a ghastly spectacle. To add to the poignancy of the situation, all the able-bodied and most of the bread-winners are gone; only the children and the infirm remain. One of the members lost was Jogendra Kumar, a clerk in the Ordnance Examiner's Office, who took privilege leave in order to go to Pooree. When all hopes of his return vanished, Annada's son, Amritlal, applied for his uncle Jogendra Kumar's place. But for once the great Circumlocution Office had been a prodigy of despatch, and forgotten its old motto, Not to do it. It had done, and with a vengeance, against the deceased's family. On the first news of the *Sir John Lawrence's* fate, long before Jogendra's leave had expired, the Ordnance Accounts Examiner's Office proceeded to fill up this place, and fill it up it did. Although Amritlal represented that his obtaining the post would enable him to support the immediate family left destitute by Jogendra, and although he was quite competent to discharge the office, yet his appeal failed. We do earnestly hope the Calcutta Corporation will see its way to help its poor *employe* Ashutosh Chatterjee. Long since reduced by half rations to skin and bones, he is now a shadow. We are truly glad to find that the case of the family has called forth the kind commiseration of Lord DUFFERIN and his Private Secretary. The dead are not brought back by words, but it is something in your dark desolation or hour of trial to feel that you carry the sympathy of the high and mighty in the land and the heads of society. The following letter ought to be an example to many :—

Viceroyal Lodge, Simla, 16th June, 1887.

DEAR SIR,—I have received your letter of the 10th instant, and have shown it to the Viceroy. It is hardly necessary to say that His Excellency sympathises most deeply with you and the numerous other inhabitants of Calcutta who are mourning the loss of relatives and friends in consequence of the wreck of the *Sir John Lawrence*. The list of casualties in your family is truly a terrible one, and it is, unfortunately, by no means a solitary instance.

The Viceroy is in correspondence with the Lieutenant-Governor, and the Sheriff of Calcutta with a view to ascertain the best means of aiding those who have suffered from the catastrophe, and to devise some measures for lessening the danger of such catastrophes in the future.

I take this opportunity of expressing to you my own sympathy with you in your bereavement, and remain.—Yours truly,

D. MACKENZIE WALLACE,  
Private Secretary to the Viceroy.

Babu Ashutosh Chatterjee.

And now having exhausted all our space, we again thank the Relief Committee for the prompt assistance they gave to the poor Brahman of Sobhabazar whose breadwinning wife had been wheedled away whose case we noticed too weeks ago. And we beg to present the following cases.

Kali Chunder Chatterjee lived by practising Homœopathy on a small scale in Oolooberiah, by which he made about Rs. 15 a month on an

average. He has left his wife utterly destitute. She has found a temporary shelter in the house of Gopal Chunder Banerjee, Jorabari, Kalighat.

By the death of her only daughter Moheswari, who was a servant in Joy Kissen Bose's, (Raja Rajendra Narain Bihadoor's nephew) house, Shambazar, Champa Bewa, who lives in Nobo Raha's Lane, Sobhabazar, has lost her sole support. She is an aged cripple, incapable of earning her bread.

One of the most pitiable cases, and which has roused general sympathy in Sobhabazar—the worst sufferer of any quarter of the town, where men are too absorbed in their own wrongs to think of others' injuries—is that of Gobindo Chunder Dass, of Khita, Thana Amta, in the Hoongly District, an old and long tried servant of the late Raja Kali Krishna Bahadoor who stuck to the family to the last and supported himself and family thereby. His death on the steamer leaves half a dozen souls unprovided for—a wife, a sister, two infant sons and two unmarried daughters. They are entirely helpless and thrown on the public charity.

We trust the Relief Committee will be good enough to take these miserable surviving victims of disaster under their gracious ægis. And may the Lord bless them!

### THE MISERABLE LAIDMAN CASE.

The *Pioneer* is in a pretty pet. Nay, it is plainly miserable. The great journal's extreme annoyance at Captain Hearsey's victory over Sir Alfred Lyall, is too evident from the tenor of the paragraph which appears in one of its late issues. In this it terms Lord Stanley's clear and admirable speech, "A frothy attack made in the House of Lords on the North West Administration on the miserable Laidman case." We confess we are glad for once to hear even from the columns of the *Pioneer* itself, of its tacit condemnation of the policy and conduct of the Government of the North West Provinces with regard to that "miserable Laidman case," miserable in every way. Miserable for the tyranny and oppression of the strong against the weak, *viz.*, the Government of India against poor honest native land owners whose land they wanted and whose land they took by force. Miserable for the cowardly abuse of the aforesaid poor honest men when endeavouring to obtain their rights in a Court presided over by an English Magistrate. Miserable for the perjury and falsehoods of that English Magistrate in all the three courts in which he appeared. Miserable for the conspiracy entered into by His Honor and that Magistrate to crush Captain Hearsey for having boldly and publicly reported that cowardly conduct. Miserable on account of the Lieutenant-Governor promoting that Magistrate when tainted with falsehood and perjury, contrary and in opposition to the editorial of the *Pioneer* itself on Captain Hearsey's trial. Miserable from the Lieutenant-Governor attacking the power and prestige of the Chief Justice of his own province in a cowardly and underhand way with secret circulars. Miserable in paying out of the pocket of the Indian tax-payer all the costs incurred in making a false and malicious criminal charge.

How is it that the *Pioneer* has never demurred or raised a single objection to this last-mentioned dishonest proceeding, while it cannot bear the idea of poor Captain Hearsey's costs being recouped to him, the costs of an innocent man wrongfully accused and persecuted? That journal states in the para above alluded to, "Lord Cross has ordered that the defendant Hearsey should have all the expenses of the litigation made good to him," and remarks on this fact, "A few more pay chippings and privilege parings will be needed to meet this unexpected bill." The *Pioneer* objects and justly that the public purse should be made to suffer for no fault of the people. In justice and consistency, however, it should not envy the Captain the tardy reparation that might be made to him, but see that the folly and obstinacy of the rulers is brought home to them—to their tenderest part.

As the whole of this miserable business was brought about by the illegal and ungenerous action of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the North West Provinces, the whole of the ex-

penses of this case—pour encourager les autres—should come out of his private pocket. We mean not only the costs now ordered to be paid to Captain Hearsey, but also all the costs incurred by Mr. Laidman in the prosecution which Sir Alfred Lyall caused to be repaid to him out of Government monies entrusted to the Lieutenant-Governor for *bona fide* public purposes and not for the payment of a private debt incurred in making a false, malicious and vexatious criminal charge against an innocent man. We ask why should the Indian taxpayer be made liable for sums of money misapplied and losses caused to the State by the malice, bad faith, stupidity and obstinacy of an official although that official be no less than His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the North West.

If the Covenanted Civil Service are too loyal to their leader, and champion, Sir Alfred Lyall, and do not like to see such loss entailed on him, and too honest that these "chippings" be taken from the pocket of the Indian taxpayer, let them, so as to reimburse the State for this loss, sanction the deduction of the sum of Rupees ten from their pay and allowances and thus make up the costs on both sides of the Laidman *vs.* Hearsey trial.

We wonder that the *Pioneer* has not recommended to the Government of India to have Captain Hearsey seized and sent out of the country as SILK BUCKINGHAM was in about 1823, because he had the temerity to boldly criticize the policy and the personnel of the Government of Bengal. This is what the *Pioneer* and the Covenanted Civil Service would like to do, but fortunately we do not live under the same regime. The days of SILK BUCKINGHAM are no more.

The *Pioneer* was very righteous in its condemnation of what it termed the "Madras Scandals." Will it have the fairness and consistency to find out and publish all the official papers concerning this miserable case? If it do so, the whole world will perceive that the God they worship in Upper India, the Lieutenant-Governor of the North West Provinces, is only made of mud like themselves.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

#### THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

SIR,—Like an orphan, the Corporation seems to have neither father nor mother. Its money also is no better than mere pebbles of the road. I read in the *Indian Daily News*, that from the beginning of the next month, it will entertain the services of twelve new conservancy overseers to assist Dr. Simpson. I hope nothing of the kind will be done. Instead of being of any help, these men will be a positive burden to him. We have a multitude of them. Have they been able to render any substantial help? What help, then, can the new ones be expected to give? Besides, such men are wanted as have knowledge of sanitation. Now, the overseers are quite laymen, and, as such, they can hardly be expected to understand much, if anything, about it. What is the use then of their services? Dr. Simpson does not care much for them. He thus speaks of them:—

"The overseers, however good they may be for general work of supervising the cleansing of bustees, have not the requisite knowledge for making, even under instructions, sanitary investigation and consequently details collected by them are scarcely the material on which any safe inference can be made."

It would be much better therefore, I think, if the services of the late four medical gentlemen, as stated in my previous note, are again availed of, and they are at once made permanent. This is also what Dr. Simpson wants. When the proposal for their discharge was made, he stoutly objected, and would if possible not part with them. But alone he could do very little. In my previous note I clearly showed their usefulness, and I need not repeat it here again. I hear that the Overseers draw Rs. 50 each per mensem. I do not know their exact number. But if the new twelve are appointed, it will cost Rs. 300 more per month. Now, what did these four medical men cost? Rs. 400 only. So if the Municipality can pay 300, cannot it pay a 100 more, which would be better spent? I leave these things to the careful consideration of all, and hope that what is best will be done.

KISSORY NATHA MITRA.

*Holloway's Pills.*—Enfeebled Existence.—This medicine embraces every attribute required in a general and domestic remedy; it overturns the foundations of disease laid by defective food and impure air. In obstructions or congestions of the liver, lungs, bowels, or any other organs, these Pills are especially serviceable and eminently successful. They should be kept in readiness in every family, as they are a medicine without a fault for young persons and those of feeble constitutions. They never cause pain, or irritate the most sensitive nerves, or most tender bowels. Holloway's Pills are the best known purifiers of the blood, and the best promoters of absorption and secretion, and remove all poisonous and noxious particles from both solids and fluids.



## THE ARNIGAD CASE.

*Speech of Lord Stanley of Alderley, delivered in the House of Lords, Monday, May 16, 1887.*

Lord Stanley of Alderley, in rising to present a Petition; and to ask the Secretary of State for India, if it was true that at Musoorie there were three men in possession of a cultivatory holding of 200 bighas, at a fixed rent of Rs. 5 to Rs. 8 a-year, and of very considerable value. The land was taken away by Government under the Land Acquisition Act, and Mr. Laidman assessed the compensation to be given. In the result he awarded Rs. 3,500 to the person entitled to receive the rent, and Rs. 2,400 to the tenants, and out of this Rs. 2,400 he gave all but Rs. 900 to the creditor of one of the tenants, so that the three, who were formerly in a position of comparative opulence, were turned out upon the world as beggars; and, if it is true, whether he will direct that these men be compensated; also, if he will inquire whether Mr. Laidman's Court was one duly qualified under the Land Acquisition Act for hearing the case; and whether the public notices and proclamations required by the Act had been made; also to ask the Secretary of State if he will inquire into the conduct of the Lieutenant Governor of the North-West Provinces, Sir Alfred Lyall (1) in respect to the Arni Ghad expropriation; (2) his ordering Mr. Laidman to prosecute Captain Hearsey; (3) his promotion of Mr. Laidman after the trial; (4) the secret Circular to his judicial subordinates commenting adversely on the judgment of the Chief Justice; said, according to the Notice, he had the honour to present a Petition from Captain Hearsey, asking for redress on account of the acts of the Lieutenant Governor of the North-West Provinces. Captain Hearsey's family had been attainted in 1745 on account of the presence of some of them at the Battle of Culloden. Since then they had settled in India, and 10 of his relatives had served in the Indian Army. His father was General Sir J. B. Hearsey, who played a considerable part in the Mutiny. The case which he had to lay before the House consisted of two separate complaints—first, with regard to the spoliation of the Arni Ghad Zemindars for the purpose of providing a better botanical garden for Mussoorie; and, secondly, with respect to the conduct of Sir Alfred Lyall, as it arose out of the spoliation of these Zemindars. The noble Viscount the Secretary of State for India (Viscount Cross) would not be able to deny the description of the injury suffered by these Zemindars given in the Notice Paper, because these words were taken from the summing up of the Chief Justice in a trial arising out of the first wrong done to the Zemindars. This Chief Justice was then the Chief Justice at Allahabad, and he had since become the Chief Justice of Calcutta. The wrong done to the three brothers who owned Arni Ghad was that they were forcibly deprived, under the Land Acquisition Act, of land and houses valued at Rs. 22,000 for a nominal sum of Rs. 5,700. That this sum was entirely inadequate was clear from the fact that the three assessors of all the parties agreed in stating that this property, which was irrigated, could produce 400 maunds of wheat per annum besides other crops. At the price for wheat in the locality, at 20 years' purchase—the basis laid down in the Land Acquisition Act—this gave Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 2,000 for the houses on it. Another proof consisted in the fact that the old discarded botanical garden had since been sold for Rs. 10,000; yet it must have been inferior to Arni Ghad, or it would not have been abandoned for Arni Ghad. There was yet a further injustice done to these unfortunate Zemindars. A certain mohunt or priest had a chief rent of Rs. 5 on Arni Ghad, the payment of which should have been continued by the Government on behalf of the botanical gardens, as would have happened in the case of a Scotch feu or an English chief rent; or the chief rent might have been extinguished at 25 years' purchase, which would have been Rs. 125; but, instead of that, Mr. Laidman, the Judge of the Small Causes Court which settled this case, assigned Rs. 3,500, or the larger half of the purchase money—Rs. 5,700—to the mohunt or owner of the chief rent of Rs. 5. He must explain an apparent discrepancy between Rs. 5 and the Rs. 5 to Rs. 8 a-year mentioned by the Chief Justice. By the deed—of which he had in his hand a translation—

"The high priest and ruler and chief mohunt of the Gurn Guddee, by name Saroop Dass, gave a grant by deed of the village of Arni Ghad to Dilloo, for which the ruler of the Gurn Guddee shall receive year by year the sum of Government rupees five only. If any Zemindar shall disturb or annoy Dilloo (in his possession) the ruler (of the Gurn Guddee) shall fine that individual: all other claims (with the exception of the five rupees) are given absolutely and free by the ruler of the Gurn Guddee."

The other Rs. 3 referred to by the Chief Justice as occasionally given were a "nuzzur," or voluntary offering to the priest. The motive alleged for this gratuitous injustice was that this mohunt was in the habit of lending elephants, carriages, and other conveniences to Indian officials. Of the remaining sum of Rs. 2,400, the Judge assigned the greater part to the creditors of one of the three brothers or owners, and he also ordered Rs. 234 to be deducted for Government costs, though it was said that this was contrary to the Land Acquisition Act, and some Rs. 900 was all that was left

for the owners. It might be asked why the three dispossessed Zemindars did not avail themselves of their right of appeal? It was the extreme poverty to which they were reduced which deprived them of this resource. They had not the means to fee counsel to place their case before the High Court. Captain Hearsey's letter says of the eviction, after the decree of Mr. Laidman—

"In the beginning of November, 1882—the men had refused, at my advice, to quit their houses and homes—the superintendent of the Dhoon sent for all the males of the village to his office, which was in Mussoorie, about four miles off, and, as in duty bound, they attended. It was a cold winter day, alternate heavy showers of sleet and rain deluged and froze the earth, the wind cut like a razor. During the absence of the men, at the order of the local authorities, certain Mahomedan coolies, Affghanies, broke open their doors, thrust the women and children out into the cold winter blast, and pitched their clothes, bedding, cooking utensils, and stores of food after them into the rain and sleet. When the men returned late in the afternoon from the superintendent's office, they found their women and children waiting in the open in the soaking rain for their arrival, their winter store of food damaged by rain, and they and their wives and little ones homeless and shelterless. I believe for that night they took shelter in the Barlow-gunj bazaar—a small bazaar belonging to a member of our family. This is the action of the myrmidons of of the State landlord, the Government of India."

This description might possibly remind their Lordships of the Glenbeigh evictions; but there was this difference—the person who caused those evictions was owed five years' rent, and would have taken half-a-year's rent, so that he was evicting for a 10th part of what was his own; but the Government of the North-West Provinces had evicted for what was not their own, and for which they had not paid a 22nd part. He was sure that his noble Friend the late Secretary of State for India would not defend this eviction, because he and others were pledged by their Leader to the doctrine that evictions justified the Plan of the Campaign. He was not aware that there was any record of any public utterances of the noble Viscount the Secretary of State for India as to evictions; but he was too faithful and devoted an adherent of the Prime Minister to separate himself from his policy; and he only asked the noble Viscount to carry out in India the admirable provision of the Land Bill for Ireland, which would shortly be before the House, for paper evictions by legal process converting a tenant into a caretaker, and that no actual evictions should take place in India under the Land Acquisition Act until all the appeals had been heard and the cases legally concluded. There were two things which the India Office might suggest to the Secretary of State in answer to the case he had now stated. One was, that the three brothers were not the owners, but only occupancy tenants; and the other, that whatever was done to them was done in due course of law. It would be a mere quibble, which the Secretary of State would not succeed in inducing any one to believe, to assert that a chief rent of Rs. 5 constituted the owner of it the owner of the whole property; or considering the deed granting Arni Ghad in perpetuity for a chief rent of Rs. 5, that the owner of the chief rent had any further interest in or claim to interference with the property; or that persons owning land in perpetuity, subject to the trifling chief rent of Rs. 5, were not the real owners. Those who received the chief rents of Scotch feus were termed superior landlords, but they had no rights over the land beyond receiving those chief rents. The mohunt, therefore, ought not to have had an assessor to value Arni Ghad; but this was done in order to give the Government of the North-West Provinces an extra voice against the Zemindars' assessor. As to this expropriation having been carried out according to law, it was stated, in opposition to that view, that the Small Causes Court in which this spoliation was decreed was not a Court competent under the Act to try such a case. It was also stated that the notices and proclamations required by the Act were not made in this case. Notice had to be given in the Government Gazette, and also by beat of drum, or by notices posted on the buildings on the estate or elsewhere, that the land is to be so taken. That many abuses had taken place under this Act was shown by the Circular recently issued and published last month by the Board of Revenue, calling upon the collectors and commissioners to exercise more personal supervision in cases arising out of the Land Acquisition Act. Now, though this expropriation took place a good while ago, it was only comparatively lately that the affair got into the Indian newspapers; and the late Secretary of State for India knew nothing of it, and it was never brought under his notice. The whole responsibility of this injustice and oppression, if it should be upheld, would, therefore, belong to the noble Viscount the Secretary of State for India. By responsibility, he did not mean responsibility to Parliament, which was an obsolete and unmeaning phrase, but that responsibility in the next world which could not be evaded, and which the noble Viscount would not be inclined to deride. He would now relate the administrative abuses and arbitrary conduct to which this spoliation led the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces. Mr. Laidman, who had decided this case against the three Zemindars of Arni Ghad, in subsequent proceedings on the 9th of February, 1885, addressed these

Rajpoots from the Bench with the words—"Soor! badmash! hamzadeh!" or, "Pigs! black-guards! bastards! you have appealed our decree to the High Court;" then he repeated the bad words, and told the peon to turn them out of Court. Captain Hearsey, who was present in Court, and who had befriended these Rajpoots, wrote a letter to *The Statesman* of Calcutta narrating these unseemly words from the Judicial Bench. For this, Sir Alfred Lyall directed Mr. Laidman to prosecute Captain Hearsey for defamation; he could not brook any criticism even of an unworthy member of the Civil Service. Accordingly, Captain Hearsey was prosecuted in July, 1885. The Chief Justice summed up against the prosecution, and the jury acquitted Captain Hearsey in five minutes. There were seven Christian and two Native jurors; the foreman was the local manager of the Agra Savings Bank, and another juror was connected with another bank. It was naturally to have been expected that Sir Alfred Lyall should have bowed to this judicial decision; but their Lordships would be astonished to learn that he replied by promoting Mr. Laidman to a higher post, with additional salary of Rs. 300 a month, although he had just been shown to be unfit for the Bench, and tainted with perjury. It was also stated that he remitted, or ordered to be refunded to Mr. Laidman, the costs which had been given against him in the recent trial. If the Secretary of State should find that Mr. Laidman's cost had been repaid to him out of public money, would he direct that Captain Hearsey also should be reimbursed the Rs. 3,000 that he had to pay for his defence? Not satisfied with that he wrote a Minute or Resolution, condemnatory of or adversely criticizing the Chief Justice's judgment, and sent it round in a semi-secret way to his judicial subordinates, for it was sent round to them by a messenger, with orders that they were to take note of it, but not take a copy of it. The Secretary of State would hardly be able to uphold or excuse this method of the Lieutenant-Governor of a Province of securing the respect of the junior members of the Judicial Body for the Chief Justice. Their Lordships would probably be told—and, if so, he should entirely concur with the statement—that Sir Alfred Lyall was a man of great ability, culture, and energy, and an ornament of the Indian Civil Service; but he had the defect of caring more for the interests of the Civil Service than for the interests of the people of India; and in these affairs he seemed to have lost his judgment and to have exemplified the saying—*Corruptio optimi pessima*. Sir Alfred Lyall had, however, done an injury to the Indian Civil Service, since the Press had contrasted his conduct with that of Lord Reay in the Cambay case; and many would be led to say that the Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal and the North-West Provinces ought to be filled up by men fresh from England, and not by members of the Civil Service. The wrong done under the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor had borne fruit, and formed a precedent. Quite recently, the municipality of Mussoorie, when wanting a piece of land for the disposal of their sewage, offered Rs. 10,000 to their Vice-President for a piece belonging to him; later they wanted to take for Rs. 1,000 only a plot from the villagers of Kiar Kuly, half the size of that for which they had offered Rs. 10,000. These villagers escaped from expropriation, because the medical officer would not allow this land to be used for the purpose, as it would have contaminated the water going to the Goorkha lines. The municipality was now attempting to expropriate some other villagers for an inadequate price, and although the matter was not legally concluded, the municipality had taken possession of the land and placed it upon it. He concluded by moving for a copy of Sir Alfred Lyall's Resolution on the judgment of the Chief Justice.

The Secretary of State for India (Viscount Cross), in reply, said, it was not his intention to enter into the subject of future legislation, or discuss the question generally; he would content himself with simply answering the Question put before him. On the first two clauses of the Question, it would be enough to say that the decision of the subordinate Judge of Dehra Dun in the case referred to by the noble Lord was appealed against in the High Court of the North-West Provinces by the tenants; that their appeal was dismissed with costs, their own counsel admitting that he had no case; and that if there had been in the decision appealed against either any failure in substantial justice or any defect in the form of procedure, it would certainly have been taken notice of by the High Court. As regards the third clause of the Question, Captain Hearsey stated, in a Memorial received from him, that he had sent to the Viceroy a Petition for transmission to the Secretary of State. He (Viscount Cross) did not propose to take any action, unless he received a representation on the subject from or through the Government of India in the ordinary course.

Lord Stanley of Alderley said, that he was satisfied with the noble Viscount's reply, as the matter was under the examination of the Indian Government, and he would withdraw the Motion. The noble Viscount, however, had been misinformed as to the appeal.

#### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

**GENERAL.**—The 9th June 1887.—The undermentioned khas tehsildars in the district of Chittagong are vested each with the powers of a Deputy Collector under Regulation IX of 1833—

\* Baboo Hari Pada Ghose. | Baboo Kali Pada Chakravarti.

The 15th June 1887.—Baboo Nobin Chunder Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector and Second Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Patna Division, is allowed leave for three days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 3rd May 1887.

The 17th June 1887.—Mr. F. J. Monahan, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Jamtara, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, with effect from the 22nd March 1887.

The 18th June 1887.—The order of the 12th April last, granting privilege leave for two months and twenty-eight days to Baboo Surya Kumar Agasti, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Arrareah, Purneah, is cancelled.

In supersession of the order of the 3rd May 1887, Baboo Sant Pershad, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sasseram, Shahabad, is transferred to Purneah, and is posted temporarily to the Sudder station of that district, with effect from the 6th instant.

The 20th June 1887.—Mr. J. Ware Edgar, c. s. i., has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of furlough for three months.

Baboo Nilkanta Sircar, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Furreedpore, is transferred to Pubna, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

This cancels the order of the 10th May last, appointing Baboo Nilkanta Sircar to have charge of the Madaripore sub-division of the Furreedpore district.

The order of the 10th May last, granting privilege leave for one month and ten days to Baboo Dwarka Nath Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Madaripore, Furreedpore, is cancelled.

**JUDICIAL.**—The 14th June 1887.—Baboo Bulloram Mullick, Small Cause Court Judge and Subordinate Judge of Pubna and Bogra, is allowed leave for one month, under rule 2, section 73 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Jadu Nath Dass, First Munsif of Monghyr, in the district of Bhagulpore, is appointed to act as Small Cause Court Judge and Subordinate Judge of Pubna and Bogra, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Bulloram Mullick, or until further orders.

Baboo Mohendro Lall Gossami, Munsif of Fenny, in the district of Noakholly, on leave, is appointed to act temporarily as a Munsif in the district of Bhagulpore, to be ordinarily stationed at Monghyr, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Jadu Nath Dass, or until further orders.

The 16th June 1887.—Baboo Kedar Nath Mazumdar, First Subordinate Judge of Tipperah, is temporarily deputed to Backergunge until further orders.

Baboo Rajendro Coomar Bose, Subordinate Judge of Beerbhoom, on deputation at Bankoora, is temporarily deputed to Burdwan until further orders.

The 17th June 1887.—Baboo Hari Mohun Sen, Deputy Magistrate, Backergunge, is vested with powers under section 110 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Mr. F. J. Monahan, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Jamtara, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

Baboo Nilkanta Sircar, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Madaripore, Furreedpore, is vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Baboo Nobin Krishna Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The 18th June 1887.—In modification of the order of the 22nd March last, Baboo Mohendra Nath Mitter, Judge of the Courts of Small Causes, Dacca and Munshigunge, is allowed leave for one month and a half, viz., eleven days under section 73-3 of the Civil Leave Code, and the remaining portion under section 73-1 of the Code, with effect from the 19th April 1887.

The 20th June 1887.—Baboo Tarak Nath Datta, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Cuttack, to be ordinarily stationed at Jajpore, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Gopal Krishna Ghosh, or until further orders.

This cancels the order of the 20th ultimo, appointing Baboo Srinath Sen to act as Munsif of Jajpore.

Baboo Kisori Mohun Sikdar, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Mymensingh, to be ordinarily stationed at Netrokona, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Aghore Chunder Hazra, or until further orders.

**ERRATUM.**—The 18th June 1887.—In the order of the 3rd June 1887, granting Baboo Behari Lal Banerjee, First Munsif of Bagirhat, in the district of Jessore, leave for three weeks, under section 73, rule 1, chapter 5 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 25th April last, for "First Munsif of Bagirhat" read "Munsif of Magurah."

**GRANT OF LEAVE TO MUNSIFS.**—The 14th June 1887.—Baboo Aghore Chunder Hazra, First Munsif of Netrokona, is allowed leave for one month, under section 73, rule 1, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT).

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## The Week.

SIR STEUART BAVLEY returned to the capital yesterday, that is to Barrackpore, where he puts up at the Government House, the Belvedere palace being under repairs. He shortly holds a Durbar, probably at his Legislative Chamber, for conferment of titles.

THE Bengal Chief Secretary, Mr. F. B. PEACOCK, goes home on 3 months' leave, Mr. EDGAR coming into his place.

THE Chinese of Hongkong, in meeting assembled at the Tung Wah Hospital, on the 29th of May, decided, out of the sum subscribed, 62,500 dollars, for the building of a Chinese Chamber of Commerce to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee, to grant 10,000 dollars to the European Jubilee Fund. They will also present Her Majesty with an embroidered address. They order it better in China, it must be confessed.

HER Majesty has been pleased to approve the appointments of Sir STEUART COLVIN BAVLEY, K. C. S. I., C. I. E., and Mr. JAMES BROADWOOD LYALL as Lieutenant-Governors respectively of the Bengal Division of the Presidency of Fort William and of the Punjab and its Dependencies—after these high servants of the state have been rather old in their offices.

IN its local column, the Madras *Law Times* has a paragraph headed ROBBERING AN ATTORNEY, giving a Police case. The accused pleaded guilty and was fined Rs. 20 for taking Rs. 5; to go to prison in default of payment. The plea proves the man a *rara avis*, and it would be a pity if he were turned to a jail bird. Clearly, he is no true professional. Fancy the idea of robbing an attorney!

One of the teachings of popular Indian natural history as well as of our proverbial philosophy is, that a leech will never fix itself upon a leech.

In English "leech" is a synonyme for men in another line of work, but we do not know that in justice its range should not be widened, so as to include the blood-sucking worms, insects, and reptiles of all classes and professions.

BEWARE of the Telephone! An American physician has arrived at the conclusion that the mortality among subscribers to that convenience is three times greater than among non-subscribers. Its constant use brings on diseases—cerebral, pulmonary and nervous. He describes "telephonism" as over-excitement of the nervous system. This whispering trumpet is the infernal machine of the Age of Brass and Iron—the *Kali Yug*.

FROM Japan news comes of a fire in the U. S. Consular Gaol at Yokohama, on the 19th of May, at about 11-30 A. M. It is supposed to be the work of a notorious prisoner, Protell by name.

WE hear from China that an unusually abundant sugarcane crop has been reaped at Taiwanfoo, but owing to heavy taxation, the produce, it is said, is in great part being stored in the country.

IN Eastern Asia they say that the typhoon in the Gulf of Siam of the 29th of April was the severest ever known in that part of the world.

The old stroy. It was, at any rate, the only one in Siamese waters since 1871, inflicting great damage to the shipping and property.

RAILWAY matters have advanced a step in China. His Excellency CHOW FU has purchased the material for a 200-inch line of 24th rails, of 7 li in length, from the French Syndicat expressly to be laid in Peking. There will be a locomotive, of course. For the rest, the rolling stock will comprise two first class passenger carriages and a luggage wagon.

THE King and Queen of Servia have fallen out. The queen is now in the Crimea and the King has prohibited her return to Servia.

REUTER telegraphs that the prolonged drought is seriously affecting the crops in several counties of England.

THE petroleum conduits near Batoum, owned by Messrs. NOBELS the ROTHSCHILDS and others, have been destroyed by dynamite.

THE neighbourhood of Tiflis in the Caucasus has been found suitable for cinchona growing, yielding a bark for quinine manufacture.

THE new liquor law in Kansas requires a certificate from 25 female signatories for the opening of a drug store.

IN Cuba, the charge on the Treasury for chemical analysis for judicial purposes during the year ending November, 1886, amounted to 89,974 dollars.

THE aniline dyes imported to India were £77,159 in 1883, £110,324 in 1884, £104,395 in 1885 and £61,619 in the first eight months of 1886.

AMERICA, including Canada, exported to England last year apples to the value of £700,000. And cider in proportion, we suppose.

CARPETS are being manufactured in France by M. MONVAULT, from the moss *Hypnum vulgare*.

THERE will be an International Exhibition of Industry, Science and Art, during the summer of 1888, in Glasgow, the Commercial Capital of Scotland. The Guarantee Fund amounts to £227,000.

IN his recent short season of four weeks, Mr. BOOTH, the tragedian, pocketed at San Francisco, 68,302 dollars. He played "Hamlet" ten times.

THERE is an Association for Preventing the Adulteration of Butter in Amsterdam. It has offered a prize of 1,000 florins for the best means of detecting any foreign elements in natural butter.

MESSRS. Y. LUDIMOFF & Co. own the largest soda works in Russia, in the Ural district, near Salikamsk. Hitherto they produced annually 11,300 tons caustic soda, but being recently enlarged, the outturn is expected to be 24,200 tons.

THE owner and manufacturer of "Burnett's Universal Bitters" was lately found dead in his house, surrounded by filth and squalor. A

search in the nooks and corners disclosed 3,000 dollars in gold, silver and greenbacks. The sleeping room of the miser is expected to yield much more.

THEY seem to have succeeded in producing in South America cinamon bark equal in aroma and sweet taste to the Ceylon production. Pieces about 2 inches broad and  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch thick were exhibited at the South American Products Exhibition held at Berlin last year. Professor TSCHIRCH extracted essential oil from it which could not be distinguished from the other bark oil, though the yield was inferior.

DR. KOLISCHER of Vienna has found phosphate of lime efficacious in tuberculous diseases of the bones and tuberculous granulations in general. He recently produced before the Society of Physicians patients whom he had treated, in a few weeks, successfully of white swellings in the joints, who completely regained the use of their limbs. This preparation of lime was hitherto prescribed only internally. It is also proposed to inject it in desperate tuberculosis of the lungs.

We are able to add our testimony to the virtues of lime. The value of quicklime water as a domestic medicine is largely appreciated in Bengal. Throughout the East, quicklime is consumed in large quantities in conjunction with the betel leaf, for the purpose of correcting acidity. It serves its purpose famously, but we overdo the habit and thus entail on us evil consequences. The most curious proof, however, of its worth is the fact, little known, that the labourers in lime stores are singularly free from other diseases to which our people are subject.

A RECENT ukase of the Czar prohibits foreigners from inheriting, acquiring, or in any way possessing real property in Russian Poland and in several other provinces of Russia. The Berlin Correspondent of the *Standard* writes :—

"The ukase has produced still greater irritation throughout Germany than the recent increase of iron duties, and the Berlin press has been declaiming bitterly against the measure. Of the language used I shall quote just a single specimen :—'It is easy to see that the Czar intends first to make a clean sweep of the country districts. As soon as the foreigners there are dispossessed, the turn of those who have property in towns will come, while Russia will soon get rid of the proletariat who have no property at all. The heirs of those now living are graciously permitted to inherit real property, but they will soon be Russified so that Czardom has no longer to fear their intelligence. The offspring of a foreign proprietor, born after May 25, 1887, must, voluntarily or compulsorily, sell his possessions to Russians and then clear out of Holy Russia. Russia, by her action, is radically clearing her holy soil of political and religious rebels so far as they are foreigners. This small consolation, however, remains : even as, according to the word of a well-known diplomatist, Russia is ruled by absolutism tempered by assassination, so the brutal laws ruling Russia are tempered by bribery.'"

LIEBIG'S Extract of Meat Company's profits for the past financial year are given at £94,790. The dividends paid and announced come up to 12½ per cent. These figures stagger us. From them the capital of the business would be only a quarter less than a million sterling.

HITHERTO the circulation of the *Times* was 45,000 a day. It now prints 60,000. The rise is not confined to the *Thunderer*, but is general. For the past two years, all London newspaper property has been improving.

THE objection of Mrs. CAROLINE YOUNG to the last will of THOMAS HOLLOWAY has been disallowed and probate directed to be delivered out of the Registry. The late well-known vendor of Pills and Ointment was born in 1800 and died in December 1883, leaving a fortune valued at from £2,000,000 to £3,000,000. He made his first will in 1864 when his wife was living, but she dying in 1875, he executed a fresh one in 1876, leaving his property to his sister-in-law Miss DRIVER, who took up her residence in his house after her sister's death. The last will was made on October 11, 1883. It was a reproduction of the document of 1876 with only the addition of the names of GEORGE MARTIN (Mrs. MARTIN being a sister of Mrs. HOLLOWAY) and HENRY DRIVER (brother of Mrs. HOLLOWAY) as executors. Mr. MARTIN in 1868 gave up a partnership business to assist Mr. HOLLOWAY, in the hope of profiting by this connection, and wrote his letters at Tittenhurst. The London business was managed by Mr. HENRY DRIVER while HOLLOWAY lived at Sanningdale. Neither of the executors had any share in the business, but "from time to time Mr. HOLLOWAY handed him (Martin) £50 or £100 for a holiday trip, and on one occasion he

handed him Alabama shares of the estimated value of about £10,900." Money presents were also made to Mr. DRIVER and on one occasion he got Alabama shares between £10,000 and £15,000. Both of them since the testator's death have assumed the name of Holloway in which name the business is still carried on.

Mrs. CAROLINE YOUNG, aged 78 years, opposed the probate as sister and next-of-kin on the grounds, that the will was not duly executed, that undue influence was used by Miss DRIVER and the two executors, and that the testator was not of sound mind. The sister's counsel contended that "it was, to say the least, extraordinary that GEORGE MARTIN and HENRY DRIVER should be named executors in a will under which they were to take nothing, that within a month after Mr. HOLLOWAY'S death a business worth £15,000 or £16,000 a year, and a sum of £20,000 should be transferred to them, and that £50,000 was handed to GEORGE MARTIN'S daughter by Miss DRIVER. He thought it impossible for Mrs. YOUNG or any body else not to have regarded those circumstances as very suspicious, especially as the only persons present when the will was executed were Mr. GEORGE MARTIN and members of the Driver family." But the Jury found for the defendants on all the issues.

THE Home remittances from 1st April to 25th June 1887, amounted to £4,445,500.

"THE Indian Explosives Act, 1884" came into operation from the first day of July 1887. The rules framed under Sec. 5, are published in the *Gazette of India* of the 25th June 1887.

THE Chief of Mudhol in the Southern Mahratta Country has abolished imposts upon trade in his territory.

VAKHAT SINGJI, the Thakur of Sayla in Kathiawar, has been made 'Thakur Sahib' and Subadar-Major CHATTAR SINGH, 2nd-in-Command of the Mogaung and Bhamo Military Police Battalion in Upper Burma, 'Rai Bahadur,' for their respective lives.

It is telegraphed from Simla that BO CHIN, the so-called Burmese dacoit, who caused no small trouble in Mandalay and in the Kyaukse districts, has fallen by the hands of villagers who fell upon him and dispersed his band. The Kyaukse district is, of course, now quiet.

By a Notification (Public), Home Department, dated Simla, the 23rd June 1887, No. 1377, the Foreign Department Notification No. 1368P., dated the 23rd June, 1873, is modified and it is now ruled that "all letters or communications addressed to Her Majesty the Queen, Empress of India, or to members of the Royal Family, or to high officials of Her Majesty's Government in England by public bodies or associations in British India, or by individuals resident in British India, shall in future be sent, through the Local Governments and Administrations, to the Home Department for transmission to their destination. The receipt of letters otherwise transmitted will not be acknowledged."

FOR "the great self-sacrifice displayed and the many great and disheartening difficulties successfully overcome under circumstances that have seldom had a parallel," Brigadier-General J. BROWNE, C. B., C. S. I., R. E., late Engineer-in-Chief Sind-Pishin State Railway, and those of the staff recommended will be allowed a bonus thus :—

"One month's pay to officers, &c., who have served over six months and not more than eighteen months.

Two months' pay to officers, &c., who have served from eighteen months to thirty months.

Three months' pay to officers, &c., who have served over thirty months.

The bonus will be at Frontier rates of pay : or in lieu of the bonus special leave may be granted on the same scale as to periods, on full pay ; and in other respects on conditions identical with those granted in the case of the Bolan Railway. The leave must be taken within three months from date of this Order."

EQUALITY before the law is yet a novelty in Bombay :—

"An old circular relating to the admission of low-caste persons to Courts of Justice is republished in the *Bombay Gazette*. The Judges disapprove of the exclusion from the Court-room of those classes of the community who come under the denomination of outcastes, and declare that the practice is at variance with every principle of justice, and in no way necessary to preserve the Brahmins and other high-caste men from defilement. But while giving low-castes opportunities

of access to the interior of the Courts, careful arrangements must be made to avoid the possibility of their being brought into any sort of contact with the rest of the community."

FORTY six thousand two hundred and sixty nine persons, namely, natives 33,548 males and 12,183 females and Europeans 438 males and 100 female, visited the Indian Museum, last month, the daily average being 2,203 for the 21 days available to the public.

### Editorial Notes.

THE Imperial Institute goes on accumulating. It has just been enriched by ten thousand pounds sterling from the Austrian Financier, Baron HIRSCH.

Financiers are not wont to throw good money after unremunerative speculative objects in foreign lands. Unless some mysterious tale hangs by this act of liberality, we accept it as a legitimate tribute to England for the facilities for banking and business in general enjoyed and the fortune amassed under them by Baron HIRSCH.

Where is the other Baron—of Telegraphic fame? Is he so deeply coquetting with Russia and so desperately angling in Persian and other distant waters as not to remember his old obligations to Great Britain?

THE *London Gazette* of the 24th May 1887, announces the appointment of His Highness the Maharaja NRIPENDRA NARAYAN BHUP Bahadur, of Kuch Behar, and Maharaj Dhiraj PERTAB SINGH Bahadur, K. C. S. I., of Jodhpur, as Honorary Aids-de-Camp to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

We wonder how the minister came to be dubbed with a higher indigenous Indian title than the sovereign. Let the poor Rajput ruler at home beware of his kinsman turned in London Maharaja Dhiraj of Jodhpur! Seriously, if the British do not understand Oriental distinctions, they should appoint a qualified native to steer them clear of blunder and mischief.

THE Judges of the Bombay High Court have pronounced on the Shoe Question. Revised rules with the sanction of the Governor have been issued to the effect that—All native gentlemen attending Courts of Justice are at liberty to conform at their option either to the native or the European custom; but if they prefer to follow the native custom and wear native shoes, they must leave their shoes before stepping on to the carpet or before being sworn. Parsis are always allowed to retain their shoes when they are in the act of taking an oath.

We wonder when our respected compatriot on the Madras High Court bench will take it into his head to order boots of European pattern? Do his sons go unshod too!

IN South Australia they now admit the propriety of feeling the members of the Legislative Assembly. In this the South Australians are at once Christian and wise—not only in their own generation in the Southern hemisphere, but wiser and more Christian than the old fogeys of the elder worlds. At any rate, the circumstances of a new country without many men of ample leisure in possession of the accumulations of ages, have enabled them to see the truth of the matter. They have adopted the only fair and natural course. In other parts of the globe, the readiness of men to act as honorary deputies obscures the truth, as in India at this moment the question of the public service is prejudiced by large numbers competing to reduce the pay.

THEY are trying to be respectable in British China. On the occasion on which the Opium Bill was read a third time and passed in the Hongkong Legislative Council, on the 27th of May, His Excellency Major General CAMERON, the Acting Governor, congratulated his colleagues on the measure, characterising the Bill as one of the most honest ever passed. The Act was to come into force on the 1st of June.

This Act is a pendant to the Chefoo Convention—a measure of necessity towards the proper working of that compact. It will enable the Government of Peking to check, if not wholly prevent the smuggling of opium which goes on. The illicit trade is obviously the result of the high British taxation on the drug. Yet, unless that smuggling is checked, the payment which the British have secured to the Chinese Government by the Convention will be so much or a good deal lost. Where, then, is the honesty of the present legislation, on which Gov-

ernor CAMERON laid such stress? He doubtless refers to the check that the Act is calculated to impose upon smuggling. Smuggling is branded as dishonest, but it is everywhere regarded as a venial lapse. The offence of it is a creation of law rather than of morality. The Opium Act would be more correctly described as a selfish measure.

Yet it is something to have such an expression from the Governor of Hongkong. Honesty is a new note in that Colony. It is not twenty years we believe since that disagreeable but honest lawyer, the late Mr. CHISHOLM ANSTEY, denounced the whole Colony, from Governor and Chief Justice downwards, for participation in the gains of piracy by protection of Chinese sea-robbers. He was recalled, of course, but he worried the life out of Lord PALMERSTON to grant an independent Inquiry. This the ministry dared not order. Since then, an able and righteous Governor went there in the person of Sir JOHN POPE HENNESSY, who in the ordinary course of administration unearthed all sorts of scandals. It was for this that Sir JOHN is now suffering. Sir HERCULES ROBINSON had been his predecessor in the Government of Hongkong. When, therefore, of all officers of the crown, Sir HERCULES was sent to arbitrate on the differences between the Governor and his mutinous colleagues in league with the colonists of Mauritius, Sir JOHN's fate was sealed. The Irish Question is in the way of his obtaining justice at Home, too.

WE read in a China paper—

"The loss is reported of the M. M. Co.'s steamer *Menzaleh* on the 21st of May, while on her way to Yokohama. The accident occurred when about forty-five miles to the N. E. of the Suddies, and was caused by the propeller dropping off and the machinery giving way, a portion going clean through the bottom of the ship. It was supposed to be the result of the extra strain, caused by the towing of the *Anadyr* belonging to the same company, which vessels she picked up disabled about fifty miles from Amoy and towed into Shanghai. The passengers and their baggage were rescued by the *Glenshiel*, which happened to be close at hand at the time. The *Menzaleh* remained above water for about a day and a half after the occurrence. She now lies in about fourteen fathoms of water. Whether it will be possible to raise her is doubtful, but a large portion of her cargo will probably be saved, as it consists of iron rails, which will not be much damaged by the water. It is reported that she had on board 3,000 bags of sugar, which will, of course, represent a dead loss."

Not all dead, perhaps. In the geography of some of the old Rishis, the seas of milk and its various liquid preparations are placed in the East. If the *Menzaleh* has foundered in the sea of sour milk, the contents of the 3000 bags will serve to add another variety of sea to those already mentioned in the Purans and other treatises. A *chini pita dahi sagar* is a discovery worth going to the ends of the earth to verify. Our Bengali readers will fully understand us. We wonder if LUCULLUS strayed far enough into the East to taste the dainty preparations of milk, open, under God's favour, to the "poor Indian." BRILLAT SAVARIN certainly was not privileged to enjoy the flavour of the divine *Dahi*—diviner for a sugar basis—and the ambrosial *pdesk*. The Europeans are never weary of boasting of their civilization. One thing is plain, however. They have no idea of the richness, the endless potentialities of milk. The only general—almost the sole—use of it among them is to flavour their tea with it. Not having learnt, during all these ages, to utilise to proper purpose the animal which gives the life-sustaining and delicious juice, they still follow their rude forefathers and destroy the source by eating up the cow bodily. Was ever Vandalism like to this? The very Arabs of the desert are more instructed. They boil down the milk of the camel into a hard and lasting but luscious precipitate. The Hindoos know best of all. No wonder that they worship the cow.

ON Monday last we received the following telegram from Cuttack:—

On the 18th instant the Orissa People's Association sent telegram to her Gracious Majesty the Empress praying to her to release mercifully the Pooree Raja on the occasion of the Jubilee and to introduce the elective system into Indian Councils. It is a great pity that none of the Gurjat and Kelajat chiefs were favoured with a title on the Jubilee. The Orissa public have been expecting punishment from Government to those who caused unnecessary heavy loss in the Pootee Temple case and insulted the Raj family. A memorial is contemplated.

ON the evening of the day of Jubilee, the Government of Bombay gave a state banquet at Ghunesh Kund, Poona. Two tables were spread; the first numbered 52 diners, including three natives, the second 14, all Europeans. Between host and hostess and members of their household and guests, 66 ladies and gentlemen sat at table. Only two



ladies, Lady REAY and Mrs. LYTTLETON, were present. All ate, and the 64 gormandizers of the masculine gender were by the early retirement of the brace of fair ones, left free to drink to the depth and height of their overflowing loyalty. The native gentlemen were Mr. D. PADUMJI, Sir JAMSETJI JEEJEBHOY, and Kazi SHAHABUDIN.

In proposing the health of Her Majesty, Lord REAY made a truly admirable speech—one of the best anywhere uttered in connection with the Jubilee—appropriate in thought and language and full of points. His Excellency had to contend against many difficulties. A spare person does not in the popular imagination well fill the leading chair of a social banquet, any more than a confirmed political economist—master of the Dismal Science, as it has been called—is expected to shine in the flow of soul, whatever may be his pretensions in respect of the feast of reason, pure and simple, on occasions of a different kind. His success has once more proved the falsity of popular impressions. He is clearly not one of the sophists, economists, and calculators whose advancing influence, at the end of the Eighteenth Century, filled the imaginative soul of EDMUND BURKE with apprehensions for the safety of institutions, and for the continued recognition of the emotional side of man. In fact, he is a type of the scientific sociologist and reverent observer which the wise and brilliant Irish parliamentarian would have appreciated. He fully recognises the influence—even the paramount importance—of the historic element in politics and sociology. A critic is nothing if not critical, and perhaps we ought to add that the only exception that may be taken to the speech is, not indeed the insistence of this element, but the overdoing of it. The excess amounts almost to a mannerism. Certainly, the endless repetition of the word *historian* jars on the literary sense. In a carefully prepared document, as the address is, the slight verbal blemish ought to have been avoided. Unlike the legal Avatar, Judge STEPHEN, the Governor of Bombay laid proper stress on the Queen's Proclamation of 1858. That was the noblest Indian measure during the last fifty years. It is enough obligation to Indian loyalty.

As a rule, we are not for severe sentences, even in the way of making examples. The Hon'ble Syed AMEER HOSSEIN is very far from Perfection on the bench. But, with all his deficiencies and faults, he has one amiable trait which appeals to our sympathies. He is polite and patient, perhaps overmuch so; above all, he is not harsh in his correctional capacity. No sanguinary orders emanate from his Court. He apparently tempers justice with mercy. But he wants discrimination. There can be no hard and fast rule except the general one that punishment should be proportioned to the measure of wickedness and with an eye to the prevention of recurrence of the offence. Now, this well-understood rule was distinctly violated by the Magistrate in dealing with Captain GEORGE A. WRIGHT, of the River Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Bengal*. The Hon'ble Meer Saheb exhibited his inveterate weakness on the occasion. Almost any European stipendiary Presidency Magistrate of any self-respect, however ill-disposed he might be towards natives, would have known how to chastise such a man. If a proud Briton, he would probably have by his just severity shown how little European society were disposed to own brotherhood with such roughs.

WRIGHT was charged by four firemen with running amok against them rather than committing on them assault and battery. Mr. CRANENBURGH, leading Police Court pleader, opened the prosecution with this statement:—

"The firemen were under the orders of the Engineer, and if they committed any fault, it was the Chief Engineer (and not the Captain) who had a right to punish them. On the day in question, all the firemen, as usual, went in the evening to the after part of the vessel to offer their prayers and break their fast. Just as they had done with their prayers and were about to break their fast, food being laid before them, the Captain came aft and, without any apparent cause, began indiscriminately assaulting the men and kicking and destroying the food which had been laid out before them. The assault was of a most brutal and cruel nature. The first complainant was kicked and fisted a number of times, and then violently struck with a cane, which left a number of distinct marks on different parts of his body, and there was one mark across the face. The other three men were served in the same way. In fact, the whole of the crew were assaulted and being apprehensive of further beating, they one and all left the vessel. Not satisfied with this, the Captain commenced kicking and scattering about their food, an act which seriously aggravated his offence, inasmuch as the men were engaged in a serious ordinance. Having done this, and evidently feeling that he had not given the men a sufficient beating, he took a light and went round the vessel to see if he could not find some more of the men to assault them. In the present

case, there were four complainants and, for convenience sake, the cases were, at the Magistrate's request, entered in the book as one case. If this Court found that all the four complainants were assaulted, it would be the duty of the Court to inflict four different punishments."

The facts were not contradicted. Therein indeed the defendant seems to have had the best advice. He made the best of a bad case, but the best was not hopeful. At any rate, he did not know where to stop in his answer. He pleaded *guilty*. So far so good, but he went farther. The utmost he could have done under the circumstances disclosed was to make a general appeal for mercy upon a poor old European family man. (We do not know if he has a family. If he has, we pity them. He ought to be poor if he is not. He is decidedly an old sinner.) Instead, he pleaded provocation. And what does the reader suppose, was the nature of that provocation? He was disturbed by the noise emanating from the lascars' quarters at close of day when the poor men were at their prayers or preparing to break their whole day's fast. Noise, indeed! Precious piece of a river tar this, to be provoked by a few lascars' prayers and ante-dinner chat! Why did not the man make a clean breast of it at once and confess that he was in liquor, instead of pretending that they were noisy? The man is a fool into the bargain, from his supplementary plea. Was it necessary to be down on the poor fellows like an infuriated Malay, in order to coerce them into silence? Was it necessary to destroy the poor men's food, too? One would have thought the occasion was calculated to draw out the best feelings of the master of the vessel. But savages are savages, whatever the color of the cuticle.

"The Magistrate remarked that that did not justify his behaving in the manner he did. Mr. Cranenburgh mentioned that the Captain had earned a notoriety for assaulting his men. This was not the first time he was brought up [the Captain here admitted having been fined once before.] Mr. Cranenburgh added that it was only the other day, he was reprimanded by his owners for assaulting his crew, and he promised not to do so again. His Worship, on the evidence before him, fined the accused Rs. 20."

What! Twenty Rupees in all! At the rate of Rs. 5 for every fireman! And is this the price of oppression, and insult perpetrated on her Her Majesty's lieges? And fixed in the hour of Her Majesty's Jubilee? It is a mockery of justice. A mockery to talk of a mere fine in the connection. A mulct of Rs. 5 for an outrage of that kind or Rs. 20 for the offence against four subjects of the crown, is no punishment at all for the commander of a steamer. Still less is it so for a notorious character who is continually being brought up for similar treatment of his men.

The case incidentally reveals the treatment of the native crew and labourers at the hands of some of their European superiors. And yet it is the same sort of Europeans we suppose who are the loudest to complain when the lascars and Khalasis are found, in moments of peril, wanting in the highest qualities of civilised seamanship. You treat your natives as worse than brutes, and storm if they do not prove themselves heroes.

A SCANDAL of litigation has just closed before another bench of the Calcutta Police Court. It is a story of persecution of honest enterprise worth recording.

For the better docking accommodation of the port, and encouraged to it by the principal mercantile houses in Calcutta, Messrs. REID & Co. undertook in 1883 to extend their Hooghly Dock. In August of the same year they applied to the Howrah Municipality for sale to them of 350 ft. of the Howrah Road. How they dealt with it, is only known to the Commissioners, for they have not yet answered that application. They evidently did not relish the idea of the extension, which, besides adding dignity to the port and accommodating the largest steamer out here, and thus benefitting the mercantile community and the municipality itself, might legitimately and financially reward the enterprise of the owners of the Hooghly Dock. Messrs. REID & Co., however, having adopted the idea, proceeded in February 1886 to carry out their plan on lesser scale within their own premises. The Municipality was duly apprised of this. The work proceeded from day to day and month to month, the municipal officers watching and looking on, till it was completed in July last. The Municipality being now without a head, in either sense, easily persuaded itself into a sense of wrong and proceeded against the Company criminally, the notice alleging that the crown of the Dock had encroached on 4 ft. 3 in. of the municipal land. Then commenced the complaint which has just been disposed of by Mr. REILLY, who has found against the municipality. The matter was referred to a Bench of Honorary Magistrates, one of whom—a mooktear and a municipal Com-

missioner into the bargain, had, doubtless with an eye to the main chance, voted for the very prosecution. Another active Commissioner—active after his own interest—a pleader, was feigned to bring about a conviction. The Bench took unusual interest in the case, it sat morning, forenoon, noon and evening, on working days, Sundays and holidays, talked, inspected, admitted what was no evidence, and allowed papers to be put in and taken out as the prosecuting pleader wished, in season and out of season. At length the prosecution closed. So convinced, however, was the prosecuting Commissioner of holding the judgment in his pocket, that he concluded without putting in the formal sanction of the Commissioners which Mr. REILY holds essential in all municipal prosecutions. It was not long before the defendants realised the atmosphere of the Howrah Honorary Bench Court. Messrs. REID & Co., naturally anxious for the money sunk, and for their own honor above all, went to the expense of employing counsel after counsel to watch the proceedings and to defend themselves. When the case, such as it was, was closed, they, under advice, applied to the High Court for its transfer. It was granted. After repeated references, the case at last came before Mr. REILY our Chief Presidency Magistrate. He heard the case several days and has now found on the facts that there has been no encroachment. Both the Chief Justice and the Chief Magistrate were of opinion that the case ought not to have been allowed to spin itself out to its interminable length. Acting upon a hint thrown by Sir COMER PETHERAM, Mr. REILY expressed a hope that the parties would settle their small difference, and ordered an adjournment to facilitate their doing so. Messrs. REID & Co. offered the following terms of compromise:—

"Municipality to acquire for themselves 82 feet by 8 feet of land on the West side of the road opposite to Reid & Co.'s dock and to receive for the expenses of such acquisition a sum not exceeding Rs. 1500 from Messrs. Reid & Co., and in consideration of the amount paid to them by Reid & Co., towards such acquisition, the Municipality to make over to Messrs. Reid & Co., with the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor a strip of land measuring 82 feet by 8 feet from East to West, from Southern Gate pillar, and 8 feet from East to West from the Western face of the Northern portion of the Western boundary wall now in existence in lieu of the portion of the land acquired on the West side of the road with Messrs. Reid & Co.'s money.

Messrs. Reid & Co. to pay to the Municipality a sum of money not exceeding Rs. 1000 for and towards the out of the pocket cost of the litigation. The offer by Messrs. Reid & Co., made to the Municipality without prejudice to their right."

But the municipality now presided over by the well known Civil Surgeon of the District, relying on its powers and privileges, would have none of it. Here is the record of their proceeding:—

"Read letter from Babu Nursing Dutt forwarding proposal from Messrs. Reid & Co., to compromise the case against them. The President explained his action in the matter and gave the views of the Magistrate. The roads, lanes, &c., were under trust to the Municipality and it was not in the power of the Commissioners to dispose of them. They were bound to maintain their rights."

Babu Shib Chunder Bose said they could get the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor to effect the change asked for by Reid & Co.

The President thought the Commissioners would stultify themselves if they accepted the offer.

Baboo Upender Chunder Mitter was opposed to engaging costly counsel when their own pleaders were competent to conduct the case.

Proposed by the Vice-Chairman seconded by Dr. Burgess, that the offer of Reid & Co. be not accepted. Carried.

Now that the case has gone against the Howrah Corporation, whom shall we hang? Who is to pay the costs? which the *Indian Daily News* gives at Rs. 6000 and Rs. 13,000.

It is said both sides are preparing for the Civil Courts.

The case illustrates the prostitution of municipal prosecution, turning it into an engine of persecution. There is no better method of bringing municipal government into discredit.

*The Englishman* of Tuesday wrote:—

"The *Reis and Rayyet* has made an enterprising effort not unworthy of a London journal, to trace the names and families of the persons who lost their lives in the steamer *Sir John Lawrence*. That paper is one of a type we could wish to see more represented in India. It obtains information and expresses currents of opinion almost inaccessible to papers conducted by Europeans, while it is free from the rabid and superficial style which either repels Europeans or at least disheartens them from looking for sense in the Native press. The *Reis and Rayyet* has succeeded in obtaining information regarding some of the passengers who are certainly known to have sailed in the lost vessel, and its account of the grief of the bereaved relatives is most harrowing. But regarding the bulk of the passengers nothing whatever is known, as not even a list was made of those who took passages, and there seems to be no means of learning what was the number of those who were put off the steamer because the available space was all occupied. It seems to us that our contemporary's recommendation is a good one, that in future steamers ought not to be

allowed to go to sea without a list of passengers, such as will suffice for their identification if they shall be missed. The *Reis and Rayyet* has received a report of four passengers belonging to a village called Jonai who were washed ashore alive. We wish this were true, but unhappily we can state on excellent authority that no such good news is known at Jonai. Our contemporary states that a nephew of one of the lost passengers, who was employed in a Government office, has applied for his uncle's place, but without success. We realize how hard the case may be, yet it is difficult to see how the precedent of such a mode of filling a vacancy could have been established. There yet remains one channel by which some meagre information of the missing pilgrims may be obtained. The *Curlew* and the *Tyrone* left this port about the same time with the *Sir John Lawrence*, and carried pilgrims for the shrine at Puri. These pilgrims would set out on their return home the day after the *Rath*, which was last Thursday. The walk to Chandballi would occupy six days, and there they would take steamer for Calcutta. So they may be looked for next Friday, when it is possible that some of them will be able to give tidings which will set at rest, if they do not relieve, the anxiety of sorrowing relatives, but which may not now be looked for from any other source."—*The Englishman*, Tuesday June 28, 1887.

So apathetic is Indian society as a rule, and the Press is but an echo of society, that we are truly glad to notice a notable exception in the *Englishman*. It is an inestimable advantage to have, in the thankless pursuit of public good, the co-operation of a leading organ of European opinion. No matter that the *Englishman* concludes with contradicting a part of our statement of last week. It were worth inventing a tale for marine ears, if that could draw out the *Englishman* or the *Pioneer* to take a fair share of interest in your subject. We were never foolish enough to boast of infallibility, and have now, at any rate, long since passed the self-sufficient period of verdant adolescence so as to be able to receive correction in the proper spirit of human humbleness and manly candour. Indeed, the courtesy of the impeachment has spared our equanimity any trial.

Our statement has been attacked in one part, as we have said, and that the only vulnerable part. We were never disposed or prepared to defend the point. It was the only weak point in our last week's article. The account of the miraculous escape of a few passengers washed off the upper-deck of the *Sir John Lawrence* was not received by us from any informant or correspondent nor was it obtained from any of those whom we employed or who assisted us in gathering particulars respecting the disaster. We found it in a Bengali weekly, the *Bharat Bashi*. The account seemed improbable; it was unlikely that a vessel should be grounded and then forced out and sent adrift in the wide sea, but far from impossible. There were other difficulties in the story as given in Bengali, but we attributed them to the confusion of mind of the saved and the inaptitude of the literary compiler. There was no reason to suspect the *bona fides* of the editor, or his informant. It was difficult indeed to believe that any body would seriously issue such a *canard*.

As the Bengali Press had been strangely silent after the first expression of horror and sorrow, and had contributed no information about the passengers—no, not even speculation about their fate—we determined to make the most of this account. We confess we were overjoyed at the idea of such a providential escape, and we hoped that some others may have been as fortunate. Even now we cannot persuade ourselves that there is no truth in the story, though the number of the men and their native places may be different from those given.

The *Statesman* of Tuesday reproduced the account from the *Bharat Bashi* direct, but the next morning it contradicted it on the authority of a messenger sent down to Janai on purpose. We too have instituted inquiries in that quarter with the same result.

We will now add further particulars about the ill-fated pilgrimage, beginning with Janai. Of the 16 persons from that rural townlet, chiefly ladies of respectable Brahman families, three, Joygopal Mookerjee's wife and Doollub Mookerjee's widowed sister and Bharat Panda (Panda's agent) who embarked on the *Sir John Lawrence*, are missing. Another informant adds four women of other castes, or a total of seven lost. The additions with respect to other places are as follows:—

Calcutta:—Kalakar Street.—Koylasmonnee Dassee and her mother-in-law.

Molunga Lane.—Mohender Lal Dutt's sister.

Kalighat.—Sukhada and Mukhoda, two Brahman sisters and bread winners of the family by cooking.

Dina Bamui, Kadami, cook of Passupati Ganguli, Pleader.

Gopal Sen's mother and sister.

Hira Mali and his wife (Banias).

Naraini's mother, Batli's mother and Khery.

Bhagabati, Kailasi, a maid servant of Jora Bari.

Naraini, a woman of the temple.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JULY 2, 1887.

### THE COBDEN CLUB.

THIS is, among many things, the age of Clubs. The phrase is not very lucid to foreigners, perhaps. The word club is somewhat bewildering in its multitudinous acceptations. There is the club of support to the aged peripatetic as well as the club of offensive and defensive war, from the *gaddā* of Bhima and Hercules down to the *lāthi* of the Indigo Planter and the Zemindar within living memory. It may be traced even beyond the heroic age of India and Greece—to the patriarchal.

When Adam delved and Eve span  
Where was then the gentleman

and his revolver or his sword? Iron itself was unknown, and the poor scapegrace of our first Father and Mother, without the choice of so much as a bare bodkin, must have had a somewhat difficult task of it to give his envied brother his *quietus* with a club in all probability. The club is still the most democratic instrument—the unfailing weapon of Poverty. Dynamite, notwithstanding the credit to which it has attained, is but a plutocratic pretender. The club is withal a virtuous instrument. Acting with due deliberation, it exhibits prudence and moderation. It does not fire up on the impulse of a moment. It is habitually not murderous. Only in extreme cases or under grievous provocation, does it put forth its full power. Then we have the club of association for particular descriptions of men or for promiscuous men with particular objects. There are debating clubs of different pretensions and no pretensions, clubs juvenile and clubs adult, parliamentary clubs and puerile clubs. There are reading clubs and there are eating clubs—of the latter of which we have a humble representative in the so-called mutton club of the country station in India for killing and dividing a sheep between a few of the superior residents. A notable variety is the Masonic club combining good cheer with charity under the name of "Lodge." The most important is the society club of modern life—the stronghold of old bachelors and married misanthropes, against the blandishments of female society. Not the least interesting are the memorial clubs, after some great name, Shakespeare or Garrick, Sydenham or Camden. Some of these are indistinguishable from the social type, though confined to men of particular professions or proclivities. Others are of a more businesslike character, with a stated purpose, the payment of subscription being the only bond of union between the members. A good proposition of these are mere publishing clubs, for the printing of the whole writings of a particular author or any other works which booksellers are loath to undertake in consequence of the risks involved. The last not least of the varieties is the propagandist club devoted to the advancement of a particular doctrine or policy. Such are the temperance clubs. Such, we suppose, must be reckoned the Peace Society and the United Alliance, the Aborigines Protection Society and the voluntary Foreign Affairs Committees. Such is the Cobden Club started by the disciples of the late RICHARD COBDEN for the dissemination of the principles of Free Trade.

The Cobden Club pursues its object by means of the publication and circulation of free trade literature. Besides contributing its own intellectual share, it encourages production and publication. It pays re-

wards to deserving writers and offers premiums to draw out good authors. It sows booklets and pamphlets and leaflets broadcast over the land. We ourselves are indebted to its courtesy for about two dozen choice tracts, all able and well written, and most of them simple, brief and to the point, of which we see that thousands and tens of thousands have been issued. The leaflets were distributed free by hundreds of thousands. What an activity does all this mean! Money seems to be no consideration to these princely missionaries before the supreme object of converting the world to their economic and political creed. This is, in trenchant British vernacularism, "go"—"go" *par excellence*. Such perseverance and sacrifice could scarcely fail to command success.

There is yet another truly British way of forwarding a cause—we mean conversion of the spirit through the stomach—and the Club does not neglect it. No bank directors' meeting goes without a substantial course of eating and drinking. Perhaps no true British auditors see the proper and peaceful bearings of accounts before they have an opportunity of discussing a good free lunch. The influence of the hospitable board is admitted without reproach. Nothing so much contributes to mutual understanding as a liberal dinner with choice solids and liquids. Accordingly, the Cobden Club appeals to the country annually through a grand banquet. This is the recognised British bond of brotherhood. Thus in meat and wine is the tie periodically renewed between the advocates of Free Trade.

By an accident, we believe, there was no dinner last year, and this year's feast too was in danger from another cause. The dinner usually takes place in June, but the dissolution of Parliament last year prevented the gathering. This year June was pre-engaged for the Jubilee. But it might have been hazardous to rob any body of British men, however loyal to Queen or to principle, of two successive annual dinners, so the Council of the Club antedated this year's banquet a month. It was wise. Without hoping to share their advantage, we could, from the depths of our Brahmanic consciousness, sympathise with the British Free Traders in their deprivation. We congratulate them on the recovery of the lost continuity of their mystic bond. They have got their dinner again and may well hope for the regular recurrence.

The last dinner came off on the 14th of last month, and has been specially reported at length in the *Rochdale Observer*—the leading journal of JOHN BRIGHT's native town, and which RICHARD COBDEN represented in Parliament for many years till his lamented death. It was as great a success, gastronomically and intellectually, as the postponed appetite as well as pent-up zeal and eloquence of two long years could make it. The master-diner was, appropriately enough, Mr. JOHN MORLEY. Not even at the Cobden Club would the biographer of COBDEN have been called to this distinction had he been only a great author. But Mr. MORLEY has won celebrity as a great orator and parliamentarian. He is now a power, and is destined to be the responsible ruler of England. In honoring him, the Club aggrandised itself. Mr. MORLEY did not care to conceal the fact, thereby perhaps in reality hurting the special cause of the Club to some extent. He spoke just as suited him best—more with an eye to the parliamentary contest in which his party is now fiercely engaged than to the good of the Free Trade organization. There is little ground for surprise in all this, Mr.

MORLEY being not famous for conciliation, and indeed sharing some of the impatience, not to say harshness, of his chief. It was hinted that he would abuse his position as chairman, and he himself noticed the remark. He commenced:—

"Gentlemen, it is 21 years ago since the first of these dinners was held, and among those who were present then were the veteran chief of the old Liberal party, Lord Russell—(applause)—the veteran chief who still survives him, Mr. Gladstone—(prolonged cheering)—and there was also present there a great teacher of my own, and, I suppose, of most of you, Mr. Mill. (Renewed cheering.) On that occasion Mr. Mill said: "The cord which binds us together is not a political confession of faith, but a common allegiance to the spirit of improvement, which is a greater thing than the particular opinions of any one person." Some fear has been expressed in a public print to-day—(laughter)—that I might abuse the honour which you have conferred upon me in putting me into the chair to-night by using it for a party purpose of the hour. Ladies and gentlemen, that was never my intention, and it is not my intention now. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) It is said that Mr. Cobden, if he had lived, would have been against us on the Irish question. I do not believe there is any more idle pastime in this world than speculating as to what the opinions of those who have gone before would have been upon the questions of the day. (Hear, hear.) I saw, indeed, that one speaker the other day—I know not whether to call him a seer or a prophet—said at Ayr that if Robert Burns had been alive to-day he would have been a Dissident Liberal. (Laughter.) I am not so bold; I do not make so free with the ghosts of the illustrious dead. (Applause.) I shrink from finding political creeds for the shades of famous men. Each generation must find its own way through its own difficulties, and must form its own view as to the right solution of its own problems. (Hear, hear.) We cannot be sure what Mr. Cobden's opinion would have been, but what we can be sure of is that we may imitate his political temper and his political methods. (Applause.) Mr. Cobden was never frightened—and I am speaking in the presence, I am glad to think, of some of his own family—(prolonged cheering)—he was never frightened out of a political conviction by the fact that an accidental Parliamentary majority was against him; and he never thought he must be wrong because a particular election had gone the other way. (Applause.) In our difficulties—which to-day, as politicians of all sentiments, of all schools, must recognise, are very great and very serious—(hear, hear)—in our difficulties we can take example from Mr. Cobden's energy in exploring facts, his firmness in bringing the facts to a head, his persevering advocacy of what he believed to be a great and a patriotic cause, his union of vigour of purpose with moderation of temper, his perfect, absolute, and undenied freedom from all the paltry and distorting elements of personality. (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, above all we can imitate Mr. Cobden's courage."

But though he denied the not over soft impeachment, yet he managed to prove his accusers substantially right. Indeed, in the above exordium, in the same breath he virtually sacrificed his promise. As he proceeded, he receded farther and farther from the proprieties of his position for the nonce as the mouthpiece of a movement independent of party—as the organ of a scientific rather than political creed. Before he had resumed his seat, he had thoroughly outraged the tacit understanding of the occasion. The whole speech is an adroit plea for GLADSTONE and PARNELL and Home Rule, on pretence of drawing the lessons of COBDEN's career, in the guise of an earnest exhortation to the audience to follow the great example of RICHARD COBDEN. Mr. MORLEY was not deterred by any delicacy; he took full advantage of his situation. Thus he was bent on taking revenge on the *Times* for seeking to explode, in the moment of final triumph, his ally the Greater Irish Agitator (O'CONNELL having been the Great.) He did not disdain to rake up the forgotten controversies of a quarter century back or more in order to discredit the leading journal and to divert public attention from the true issue of the intercepted letters published in the *Times*. Of course, he had not the fairness, to speak not of gratitude, to acknowledge the great services

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—Old Wounds, Sores, and Ulcers.—Daily experience confirms the fact which has triumphed over opposition for more than forty years—viz., that no means are known equal to Holloway's remedies, for curing bad legs, sores, wounds, diseases of the skin, erysipelas, abscesses, burns, scalds, and, in truth, all cases where the skin is broken. To cure these infirmities quickly is of primary importance, as the compulsory confinement indoors weakens the general health. The ready means of cure are found in Holloway's Ointment and Pills, which heal the sores and expel their cause. In the very worst cases the Ointment has succeeded in effecting a perfect cure, after every other means has failed of giving any relief. Desperate cases best display its virtues.

rendered by the *Times* to the Anti-Corn Law League and Mr. COBDEN. It is true the *Times* had not originally seen the evil of the Corn Laws. Had Sir ROBERT PEEL seen it? The *Times* was like almost every politician of the day. But it sooner than many realised the strength of the organization of the League and the effect of the unparalleled agitation which COBDEN and BRIGHT and their lieutenants and agents and missionaries—one of the most efficient of whom was our old friend the late GEORGE THOMPSON, afterwards M. P. for Tower Hamlets—had produced and matured throughout the land. It gave out its impression in a memorable article which has been recalled to this generation by the excellent popular lifelet of COBDEN from the pen of the Secretary to the Cobden Club.\* That "leader" itself must have advanced the cause of Free Trade by a great bound. But the *Times* followed it up. It was the remembrance of the services of the journal in all probability that led COBDEN once to declare in public, with almost brutal bluntness, that a single copy of the *Times* was worth more than all Thucydides. Latterly, however, COBDEN forgot his obligations, and exerted all his great influence, in a variety of ways, to crush the *Times*, and he did injure it. What wonder that at the height of an angry political struggle, his biographer, in the capacity of Chairman of the annual Cobden dinner, should not remember.

But we must hasten to close. As at the beginning, so to the last. Mr. MORLEY concluded with defending the Gladstonites along with COBDEN, against the charge of obliviousness to the honour and duties of empire:—

"Gentlemen, it is often said that Cobden was weak, and that we, who revere his memory and respect his truths, are weak, on the side of not feeling the duties and calls of empire. I do not believe that that for a moment was a shortcoming of his. He had in his day to enforce a particular set of truths of great value and immense moment at the time. I do not believe that if he had lived now he would in the least degree have overlooked or disparaged the duties which the empire has laid upon us. When they tax us with falling short of the force and the spirit by which great empires are maintained, they do us less than justice. We believe as much as any men that no kingdom can be kept up without force, without spirit, and without energy. (Applause.) But along with force and spirit and energy you must have also sobriety and judgment. (Loud applause.) And in regard to that, we in this club, and those who endeavour to press this policy, all we insist upon is that you shall not forget the conditions upon which your empire rests, and that those conditions will not be carried out by artificial and by forced unions. (Applause.) The solar system itself would go to wreck if the planets were kept in their orbits by bands of adamant instead of by the law of invisible attraction. (Applause.) Gentlemen, we of the Cobden Club are quite as proud of what Englishmen do in every quarter of the globe as even the Primrose League (laughter and cheers)—and we cannot find ourselves at this great gate of the sea, without exulting that from this river there go forth great swarms to carry forth our free laws, our liberal ideas, and our noble literature over the length and breadth of the globe. We do not forget it, and do not intend that the splendid procession should ever for a moment cease."

In responding, Mr. HENRY H. FOWLER, M. P., made an excellent speech, in which he entered into the present position and prospects of Free Trade. But we have space only for the graceful exordium:—

"We welcome him here alike with the pleasures of memory and with the pleasures of hope. A very distinguished statesman and a very distinguished author said the other night at a non-political gathering in London that men who achieved distinction in literature could achieve distinction anywhere else provided they quitted literature. Well; it is a very bold proceeding on my part to criticise either from a literary or from a political point of view Sir George Trevelyan, but when he gave the other day the illustrations of Burke and Canning I felt some considerable amount of scepticism, especially when he added the name of our friend Mr. John Morley. The literary distinction of Burke and of Canning rests upon the reflected glory of their political achievements. But I think our friend in the chair to-night has reflected the glory of his literary career upon his political life. (Cheers.) Although some people say that literature has lost that which politics have gained, I say that in this case literature has lost nothing, and that politics have gained everything."

One of the most notable addresses was that of the Marquis of Ripon who insisted on self-government

\**The World's Workers. Richard Cobden.* By Richard Gowing. Cassell & Co., Limited, 1886.

even against free trade. We can imagine how well it was delivered, with what clearness, emphasis and genuine earnestness of conviction. His Lordship's speech was however devoid of any Indian allusion.

#### GOVERNMENT BORROWING FROM NATIVE PRINCES.

IN the *Pioneer* of the 18th May, there is a very violent and unfair diatribe on the public character of Mr. KNIGHT. The Allahabad journal stigmatizes as falsehoods some recent articles in the *Statesman* concerning the loan of the buried Gwalior treasure. I mean that part of them in which Mr. KNIGHT asserts that these loans are anything but voluntary on the part of the Gwalior Durbar. I remember a good joke that occurred during the 2nd Burmese War. Some of the Regiments of our Native Infantry had objected to be sent on service across the seas to that country but were induced to "volunteer." Some one asked an objecting sepoy, "Mugar toom balunteer hai?" (*But then you are a volunteer?*) "Han, Sahib," was the reply, "Balunteer hai, mugur razee nahin," (*Yes, Sir, volunteer I am, but not willing.*) And this state of affairs, I strongly suspect to be the case of the Prime Minister of Gwalior GUNPUT RAO, and the Gwalior Durbar. If the real truth was known, they would reply like the sepoy "Balunteer hai, mugur razee nahin." With regard to the advance of these crores of rupees to the Government of India as a loan, I would seriously warn GUNPUT RAO and the members of the Gwalior Durbar against a repetition of such a gross act of folly, and to consider seriously over the fate of Oudh; for there can be but little doubt in the minds of those who have closely read Indian history, that the Annexation was caused by the Indian Government borrowing from the rulers of Oudh sums of money which they subsequently were not in a position to repay; and for this reason they not only wiped out those debts by annexing them but likewise at the same time the whole kingdom of Oudh and imprisoned the king as a State detenu at Garden Reach in Calcutta. A more infamous case could hardly be imagined, especially when we take into consideration the fact that the kings of Oudh had, from time immemorial, been the staunchest friends and allies of the British in India and had often helped them out of their financial hobbles, notably after the serious reverses and losses they sustained in the 1st Afghan War. The fact I have here stated no one can deny, and if they would wish to do so, before rushing into print, I would strongly urge on them to carefully peruse a work that was published shortly after the annexation named "Dacoitee in Excelsis." It would do the Government of India and the Governments of our Independent Chieftains good if this work was reprinted in the daily and weekly issues of our Native Press. If the Indian Government were always a strictly honorable one and had a succession of public men of high principle in their Revenue Boards and Political Agencies then no one would care to utter a single word of objection to their raising as much monies as they possibly required from the Native Chieftains and Princes for the advancement and improvement of the country. But when we can quote numerous and ever repeated instances to the contrary—when we are able to clearly demonstrate that the Government of India never keeps its most solemn treaties or its most binding agreements with its Chiefs and people, its subjects and allies, I mean with

regard to money matters, but acts in a miserably mean manner, we can only surmise that the crores of rupees extracted from the Gwalior treasure have been obtained, under some sort of pressure or another, from GUNPUT RAO and the Gwalior Durbar, the Maharaja being a Minor.

In proof of this assertion, we will ask one pertinent question. How was it that, during the lifetime of the late Maharaja, who was one of the most powerful and still one of the most loyal feudatories in India, one who aided us considerably in suppressing the Mutiny of 1857, and who for services to the State was made a General of the British Army and a Grand Master of the Star of India, how was it, we again ask, that during his lifetime the Government of India never obtained one farthing from his buried hordes and that he never relaxed his purse strings when we gave back to him his heart's desire—the Fortress of Gwalior?

We could point out dozens of cases of the meanness, to use no harsher language, of the Government of India. Amongst them are Maharaja DHULEEP SING's case (on which we will write at some further period), Begum SUMROO's (Dyce Sombre) case. Last not least is JOTI PARSHAD the great Agra contractor's case, the misappropriation of the trust money lodged by the Peshwa of Kirwee with the Government of India for a charitable purpose, for the use (as directed) of certain Brahmans in Benares. Of this sum the Government have neither paid the principal nor interest during a period of over 32 years.

The time is come when the Revenue Boards of the country, the chief cause of these and other appropriations, were wiped away, or at least so modified that the public might have a right to every document, memo, or minute written by those who sit on these boards. If the records of these offices could only be laid bare to the inspection of the public, such a mass of misrepresentation and oppressions, would be disclosed that they would be hardly exceeded by the records of the Star Chamber in its worst days.

Let our Princes remember (the greater they are the more danger to them) that in lending money to the Indian Government, the first act of their own destruction has taken place. Knock off the heads of the tallest flowers, dry up their roots and resources, and they must fail and eventually come under annexation. So I say to Scindia and to all the others as I said at first, *Beware!*

The *Pioneer*, by the article I have quoted and others of a similar nature, would not only like to suppress Mr. KNIGHT and the *Statesman*, but every one else that in any way disagrees with the ideas, wishes and interests of its mainstay and supporter—the Covenanted Civil Service—and who has the courage to write and point out the fallacies and weaknesses of the powers that be.

ANDREW HEARSEY.

OUR High Court circles are being exercised by a rumour touching the highest judicial office. It is said that the Chief Justice contemplates taking leave. Mr. Justice MITTER'S leave expires on the 25th of this month, and as the Chief Justice takes leave on the 22nd, Mr. PRINSEP, the Senior Judge, steps into the judicial throne. This has rather the look of an intrigue, (using the word in no very offensive sense,) to keep the Baboo out. The Chief will be perfectly within his right, though, and the case would scarcely form a proper grievance for agitation in the Press.

It is satisfactory to know that just at this moment Mr. Justice PIGOT returns to strengthen the Bench. He joins next week.

It has just been wired from London that Mr. GLADSTONE will move for the rejection of the Crimes Bill on the third reading on Tuesday next.



## BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

**GENERAL.**—The 17th May 1887.—Mr. W. Maude, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Barh, Patna, is transferred to Shahabad, and is posted temporarily to the Sudder station of that district.

The 16th June 1887.—Baboo Kedar Nath Mookerjee, Sub-Deputy Collector, Behar, Patna, is appointed to be a Special Deputy Collector for employment on re-valuation work under the "Cess Act, 1880," in the district of Mozufferpore.

The 20th June 1887.—Mr. H. Beveridge, Additional District and Sessions Judge, 24-Pergunnahs and Hooghly, is allowed leave for three months, under note to rule 1, section 73 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 18th proximo, or such subsequent date as he may be relieved.

• Mr. R. F. Rampini, District and Sessions Judge, Burdwan, is appointed to act as Additional District and Sessions Judge, 24-Pergunnahs and Hooghly, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. H. Beveridge, or until further orders.

Baboo Hurri Mohan Sanyal, Sub-Deputy Collector, Doomka, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is allowed leave for one month, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Moulvie Zakir Hossain, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Maldah, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Tarini Lal Chowdhry, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chittagong, on leave, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Maldah.

The 24th June 1887.—Baboo Nadia Chand Dutt is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, *vice* Baboo Ram Brahmoo Chatterjee, retired.

Baboo Nadia Chand Dutt is posted to Khoorda, in the district of Pooree.

Mr. A. W. Cosserat, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sungoo, Chittagong Hill Tracts, is transferred temporarily to the Sudder station of the Chittagong district.

The 25th June 1887.—Baboo Radhica Lal Shome, Sub-Deputy Collector, Nattora, Rajshahye, is allowed leave for one month, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Sriram Moitra is appointed to act as a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, and is posted to Nattore, in Rajshahye, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Radhica Lal Shome, or until further orders.

Baboo Doorgadas Chowdry, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nuddea, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Choodanga sub-division of that district, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

Baboo Mohendro Nath Gupta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakholly, is appointed to be Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Chittagong Division.

Baboo Rajendro Nath Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye, on leave, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Noakholly.

The services of Mr. H. P. Peterson, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Government of India, in the Home Department.

Mr. T. L. L. Jenkins, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dinagopore, on leave, is transferred to Dacca, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Mr. F. A. Slack is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Lohardugga. Mr. Slack will, in addition to his duties as Joint-Magistrate, continue to be employed on special duty as Settlement Officer of Wards' and Attached Estates in Chota Nagpore and Superintendent of Survey, Manbhoom.

Mr. D. Cameron, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sasseram, Shahabad, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Tipperah, during the absence, on furlough, of Mr. F. W. J. Rees, or until further orders.

Mr. H. E. Ransom, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Bhubooah, Shahabad, is appointed to have charge of the Sasseram sub-division of that district.

Baboo Mohendro Nath Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manbhoom, is transferred to Shahabad and is appointed to have charge of the Bhubooah sub-division of that district.

Baboo Mookund Deb Mukerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Aurangabad, Gya, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that sub-division.

The 28th June 1887.—Baboo Gogan Chandra Das, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pooree, is allowed leave for one month, under section 138-2 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

**JUDICIAL.**—The 18th June 1887.—Baboo Moti Lal Sircar, Second Subordinate Judge of Dacca, on leave, is appointed temporarily to act as Judge of the Court of Small Causes at Dacca and Moonsheegunge, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Mohendro Nath Mitter, or until further orders.

Baboo Purna Chunder Shome, Munsif of Kaligunge, in Dacca, will continue to officiate as Subordinate Judge of Dacca during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Moti Lal Sircar, or until further orders.

Baboo Rakhal Chunder Bose, Additional Subordinate Judge of Gya, at present acting as Judge of the Court of Small Causes at Dacca and Moonsheegunge, is appointed temporarily to be Additional Subordinate Judge of Shahabad.

The 22nd June 1887.—Under the authority vested in him by the final clause of section 357 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882, the Lieutenant-Governor empowers Baboo Siva Prasanna Sen, Sub-Deputy Magistrate of Rampore Hât, in the district of Beerbhoom, to take down evidence in criminal cases in the English language.

The 24th June 1887.—Baboo Tej Chunder Mookerjee, Additional Munsif of Buxar, in the district of Shahabad, is vested temporarily with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a court up to the amount of Rs. 50 within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Buxar Munsif, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Gopal Chunder Bose as officiating Additional Subordinate Judge of Shahabad.

Baboo Nritya Gopal Sircar, Munsif of North Patiya, in the district of Chittagong, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a court up to the amount of Rs. 50 within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Patiya Munsif.

The 28th June 1887.—Baboo Baroda Prosonno Shome, Officiating Subordinate Judge of Chittagong, on leave, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge of Manbhoom for three months.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

## THE GOVERNMENT ON THE BOMBAY CAUSE CELEBRE.

SIR,—The carpenter's daughter, Rukhmabai is being made too much of. That her Anglo-Indian friends, the Malabarists and the Raos would make the most of her, was only natural. But it did not occur to us for a moment that our wise Government might also do the same. Thus I see that a circular has been issued in which it is proposed to take legislative action with reference to the restitution of conjugal rights. It has convulsed the entire Hindoo community. They only hope that such a foolish and mischievous course will not be persevered in. There is no necessity whatever for legislation. The Hindoos do not want any such thing. They know that their marriage system is as perfect as it could well be. Still, if there be anything wrong in it, they will themselves undo it. They do not, and God forbid that they should ever, need Government interference or aid. Rukhmabai's case has nothing to do with them, their society, or their *shastras*. She is simply a carpenter's daughter, and, as such, they have nothing to say to her. As a matter of course, she has not been able to gain the sympathy of any of them. What is there then for the Government to interfere in the matter? Those who have represented to it on the subject, so far from being the representatives of our society, are its real enemies. It is also to be seen that Rukhmabai's case is altogether an isolated one, and that its facts are far from being what they were represented to be. So if her case be made the occasion for legislation, it will be indeed a grievous wrong and insult to us. We therefore most confidently hope that the Government will carefully see, before it allows itself to be precipitated into any action.

With respect to the amendments themselves, I am sure they will not bear the expected fruit at all. To cite an instance :—"A decree for the restitution of conjugal rights shall not be enforced by process against the person." But no one will be foolish enough to force his wife to come and live with him. He must know that a good and chaste wife is never unwilling to join her husband. What will he then do with such a wife? and what is the use to sue for such a one?

Again :—"It has been suggested that non-compliance with a decree should be made the ground for dissolving the marriage upon the application of either party, provided (among other things) that compensation is given to the party divorced." This is simply ludicrous. The wife declines to go to her husband, and yet the husband has to pay her "compensation." If that is the meaning, it is nice law, indeed!

The only provision that is plausibly commendable at all, is the following :—"If the husband has also been guilty of adultery, the wife may petition for a dissolution of marriage." This is no doubt regarded a very good threat, and one likely to check vice. But I am afraid this is the last thing that Hindoo wives will do. Their heart is so tender, they are so loving and submissive, that they think it a sin to do anything calculated to disturb the enjoyment (whatever it may be) of their husbands. They will rather suffer themselves than trouble their lords.

Thus it will be seen that, in spite of the modifications, things will remain much the same as before. It will be also seen that, instead of any good to it, our society will, on the contrary, be seriously injured. We trust therefore that our paternal Government will not do us this wanton harm for nothing.

CALCUTTA : 1st July, 1887.

KISSORY NATHA MITRA.

## THE SANTIPORE MUNICIPALITY.

The Ides of March have come and gone, but the redoubtable Vice-Chairman has not come to grief. The special meeting of the Commissioners convened on Monday last, to impeach some of his proceedings has miserably failed. The bolt that it was the requisitionists' intention to hurl on the devoted head of Babu Sarat Chundra Roy, has after all proved to be a *brutum fulmen*. The requisitionists caught a veritable Tartar in that chip of the old block. They went for wool but came home shorn, nay, bespattered with mud. With one solitary exception, the Commissioners, and they mustered exceptionally on the occasion, one and all declared that they reposed a large and unabated confidence in the V. C. It was upon the requisitionists that a vote of censure was passed, though not in black and white, for their impudence in bringing false and malicious charges against him—charges that they had not the ghost of a chance of bringing home to the party concerned. They were in hopes that they would be able to bully him into throwing up the appointment or at any rate to irritate him, but they were sorely disappointed. The greatest sinner of them got his deserts. He looked white beneath the flood of unanswerable arguments poured forth by one of his terrible colleagues. The discussion of our civic fathers is never conducted by rosewater, but on the day in question additional amount of gall had to be put in requisition. The deliberation was further enlivened by insinuations and innuendoes. Naught was extenuated, every thing was set down in malice. The dignified manner in and the consummate tact with which the Vice-Chairman, the principal object of the attack, conducted himself extorted admiration even from those between whom and the former there is not much love lost. The Irreconcilables knew that during the administration of Sarat Babu things are no longer in sixes and sevens, that he is a miracle of activity, nay, a steam engine in *Dhuti* and that good Homer sometimes nods, but they will none the less carp at his proceedings in season and out of season. Babu Roy is aware that his position is no bed of roses, but then he knows how to keep his happiness in his own hands without letting it depend on the good will and forbearance of others. When will our village corporators have sown their wild oats and will become steady? When will they forget petty

jealousies, put their shoulders together and be resolved to make Local Self-Government a success? But does anybody think that these faction fights are waged on public issues? Not a bit of it. The real objects in view are in too many cases those of private advantages or private vengeance. The reason why Local Self-Government has turned out to be all but failure, is not far to seek. It is, as observed by the sage of *Reis & Rayyet* "the fact that our countrymen cannot bear to be ruled by one of themselves. Centuries of subjection to foreign domination have broken the very backbone of individual and national self-respect."

The Ratepayers' Association, which was ushered into existence with such a flourish of trumpet, with a view to pass a vote of censure on Babu Ram Churn Bose, our late chairman, whose memorial portrait adorns the Middle School building, one of his monuments, and to oppose tooth and nail the scheme of the reclamation of Churpukur Tank, that awful spring of woes unnumbered, which is now a *fait accompli* and which is now blessed by those who at one time cursed it, lately applied to the Commissioners for recognition by them. Fortunately, the Commissioners had their eyes open. They resolved that the Association should not be recognized, inasmuch as in the existing constitution, it represented the ratepayers no more than the three tailors of Tooley Street represented the people of England. They might have added that it was a self-elected mushroom Fuss-o-ciation consisting mostly of the tagrag and bobtail. It might be observed *en passant* that both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the R. P. A. are implicated in two of the most glaring cases of encroachment that have ever cropped up. This is how they will discharge their duties as trustees of the Ratepayers' properties. Some of the good members of the Association have already taken a leaf out of the book of their worthy President and Vice-President and have forgotten the difference between *meum et tuum* with respect to Municipal land. Thanks to the lynx-eyed and ubiquitous Vice-Chairman, so many as a score of cases of encroachment have been instituted against men some of whom are regarded as the cream of Society.

ONE BEHIND THE SCENE.

Santipore, 20th June, 1887.

## NOTICE

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Clive Street, Calcutta.

## NOTICE

Is hereby given that, under Sections 66 and 67 of Act IV (B. C.) of 1876 and Sections 4 and 5 of Act I of 1882, Licenses for carriages, Horses, Ponies, or Mules kept within the town for the half year commencing from 1st April 1887 and ending in September 1887 should be taken out without any further delay according to the Schedule given below. To avoid mistakes, persons applying for Licenses who do not keep their carriages or horses at the place where the application is written, are requested to note the place or places where they keep their conveyances and horses. Persons failing to take out Licenses will render themselves liable to the penalties of the law. All applications for Licenses should be accompanied with the amount payable and addressed to the undersigned.

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R. CHATTERJEE,  
License Officer.

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If more than one such carriage, then for every such carriage after the first, two-thirds of the above rate	... 4	0	0
For every two-wheeled carriage	... 6	0	0
For every horse (not a race horse) pony, or mule	... 6	0	0
For every race horse	... 12	0	0
For every pony or mule under thirteen hands	... 2	0	0

NOTE.—Animals under eleven hands in height and carriages, the wheels of which do not exceed twenty-four inches in diameter, are exempted.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 9, 1887.

No. 281

## THE JUBILEE, 1887.

By ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE.

### I.

EIGHT hundred years and twenty-one  
Have shone and sunken since the land  
Whose name is freedom bore such brand  
As marks a captive, and the sun  
Beheld her fettered hand.

### II.

But ere dark time had shed as rain  
Or sown on sterile earth as seed  
That bears no fruit save tare and weed  
An age and half an age again,  
She rose on Runnymede.

### III.

Out of the shadow, starlike still,  
She rose up radiant in her right,  
And spake, and put to fear and flight  
The lawless rule of awless will  
That pleads no right save might.

### IV.

Nor since hath England ever borne  
The burden laid on subject lands,  
The rule that curbs and binds all hands  
Save one, and marks for servile scorn  
The heads it bows and brands.

### V.

A commonweal arrayed and crowned  
With gold and purple, girt with steel  
At need, that foes must fear or feel,  
We find her, as our fathers found,  
Earth's lordliest commonweal.

### VI.

And now that fifty years are flown  
Since in a maiden's hand the sign  
Of empire that no seas confine  
First as a star to seaward shone,  
We see their record shine.

### VII.

A troubled record, foul and fair,  
A simple record and serene,  
Inscribes for praise a blameless queen,  
For praise and blame an age of care  
And change and ends unseen.

### VIII.

Hope, wide of eye and wild of wing,  
Rose with the sundawn of a reign  
Whose grace should make the rough ways plain,  
And fill the worn old world with spring,  
And heal its heart of pain.

### IX.

Peace was to be on earth ; men's hope  
Was holier than their fathers had,  
Their wisdom not more wise than glad :  
They saw the gates of promise ope,  
And heard what love's lips bade.

### X.

Love armed with knowledge, winged and wise,  
Should hush the wind of war, and see,  
They said, the sun of days to be  
Bring round beneath serenest skies  
A stormless jubilee.

### XI.

Time, in the darkness unbeholden  
That hides him from the sight of fear  
And lets but dreaming hope draw near,  
Smiled and was sad to hear such golden  
Strains hail the all-golden year.

### XII.

Strange clouds have risen between, and wild  
Red stars of storm that lit the abyss  
Wherein fierce fraud and violence kiss  
And mock such promise as beguiled  
The fiftieth year from this.

### XIII.

War upon war, change after change,  
Hath shaken thrones and towers to dust,  
And hopes austere and faiths august  
Have watched in patience stern and strange  
Men's works unjust and just.

### XIV.

As from some Alpine watch-tower's portal  
Night, living yet, looks forth for dawn,  
So from time's mistier mountain lawn  
The spirit of man, in trust immortal,  
Yearns toward a hope withdrawn.

### XV.

The morning comes not, yet the night  
Wanes, and men's eyes win strength to see  
Where twilight is, where light shall be  
When conquered wrong and conquering right  
Acclaim a world set free.

## XVI.

Calm as our mother-land, the mother  
Of faith and freedom, pure and wise,  
Keeps watch beneath unchangeable skies,  
When hath she watched the woes of other  
Strange lands with alien eyes?

## XVII.

Calm as she stands alone, what nation  
Hath lacked an alms from English hands?  
What exiles from what stricken lands  
Have lacked the shelter of the station  
Where higher than all she stands?

## XVIII.

Though time discrown and change dismantle  
The pride of thrones and towers that frown,  
How should they bring her glories down—  
The sea cast round her like a mantle,  
The sea-cloud like a crown?

## XIX.

The sea, divine as heaven and deathless,  
Is hers, and none but only she  
Hath learnt the sea's word, none but we  
Her children hear in heart the breathless  
Bright watchword of the sea.

## XX.

Heard not of others, or misheard  
Of many a land for many a year,  
The watchword Freedom fails not here  
Of hearts that witness if the word  
Find faith in England's ear.

## XXI.

She, first to love the light, and daughter  
Incarnate of the northern dawn,  
She, round whose feet the wild waves fawn  
When all their wrath of warring water  
Sounds like a babe's breath drawn,

## XXII.

How should not she best know, love best,  
And best of all souls understand  
The very soul of freedom, scanned  
Far off, sought out in darkling quest  
By men at heart unmanned?

## XXIII.

They climb and fall, ensnared, enshrouded,  
By mists of words and toils they set  
To take themselves, till fierce regret  
Grows mad with shame, and all their clouded  
Red skies hang sunless yet.

## XXIV.

But us the sun, not wholly risen  
Nor equal now for all, illumines  
With more of light than cloud that looms;  
Of light that leads forth souls from prison  
And breaks the seals of tombs.

## XXV.

Did not her breasts who reared us rear  
Him who took heaven in hand, and weighed  
Bright world with world in balance laid?  
What Newton's might could make not clear  
Hath Darwin's might not made?

[To be continued.]

## The Week.

MAJOR W. H. COAKER, R. E., has been appointed a Port Commissioner in the place of Colonel C. H. LUARD, R. E.

A CIRCULAR Order of the Board of Revenue enjoins Collectors to visit at least once in six months the warehouses for *ganja* and *siddi*, and once a month the sudder distillery at the sudder station.

IN noticing the Bombay Shoe Circular, the *Nababibhakar Sadharani* asks—Is the European hat of the same genus with the native shoes that both should be taken off when entering the Court? The mischievous wag!

TEN Alsations are being tried at Leipsic for treason, in that they are members of the Patriotic League which aims at the restoration of Alsace to France. Constructive treason, we suppose? There is hardly any express law against the action of the ten.

THE Government have announced a four per cent. loan of two hundred lakhs of Rupees for the public service. The conditions of *The Four Per Cent Loan* of 1st May 1865, will apply. Tenders will be received by the Comptroller-General up to noon of Tuesday, the second of August next, in sums of Rs. 500 or multiples thereof.

THE provisions of the 23rd Vic., Cap. 3, Section 1 having been declared by the Secretary of State applicable, from 1st March 1886, to Upper Burma, with the exception of the Shan States, the Governor-General in Council has approved of a Regulation for the said territory which is published as Regulation No. V. of 1887 in the *Gazette of India* of the 2nd July, 1887.

LAWRENCE M. DONOVAN was brought up before the Bow-Street magistrate on a charge of disorderly conduct on Westminster-bridge. On learning that he was "the champion ariel jumper of the world" and that he had jumped from Brooklyn-bridge and the Niagara Falls Suspension bridge and recently from London-bridge, and that he again wanted to show that he could jump from that bridge and swim ashore and that therefore a crowd had collected, the Magistrate let him off with a warning.

AN English paper thus reports on the floods in Hungary:—

"A thousand men are again busy fortifying the circular dyke around Mako. The population is discouraged because news from the Upper Theiss is to the effect that the river around Tokay is steadily rising. The water has reached within fifteen hundred yards of Mako. If it commences to rain the town is lost. When the flood entered Lele yesterday (June 7) the entire population had to be rescued in boats, and is now camping in the open air round Mako. Five thousand florins were sent by the Government to provide for the sufferers and relieve their most urgent wants. Funds are being sent to pay for the works which are carried on without a moment's interruption. Mako is situated on very low ground, and is surrounded on three sides by the dykes. It is open on the side where a dyke is now being raised in all haste. If it be not finished by to-morrow or if the waters do not fall the town must be submerged. The openings in the dykes were made since 1880 with the full consent of the authorities, because of the complete confidence which was placed in the river embankments. These openings were very necessary to enable carriages, carts and agricultural produce to enter the town. I hear that in fifteen minutes the water advanced a hundred yards. The latest telegrams say that the floods have approached Mako to a distance of only three hundred yards. Last night all the inhabitants took part in making the dyke by relays. The work is continued at night by torchlight. In Szegedin a subscription for the sufferers has been opened. Those who have fled from their flooded and ruined houses are enduring great hardships from hunger and cold."

HERE is an English dog case, worth notice for its moral:—

"William Cooke 26, a common-looking man, was indicted for stealing a dog, value 80s., the property of Mr. Edward M'Dougal Stopford Claremont. He was also charged with stealing a dog's collar, value 5s., the property of Mr. Claremont. He was further indicted for stealing a black poodle dog, the property of Mr. Edward Crump, Q.C., and in addition with having stolen its collar.—The prosecution was represented by Mr. Eardley Wilmot; and the prisoner was represented by Mr. Thorne Cole.—In his opening statement to the jury, Mr. Wilmot said he intended to proceed with the first charge made against the accused, which was only a misdemeanour. The prosecutor, who is the secretary of a public company, resides near Portman-square. On Tuesday afternoon, the 10th of May, the dog was let out for a run. The prosecutor did not see his dog again until the following Monday—in the meantime a reward had been offered for its recovery. It was

wearing at the time a silver collar worth 5*l.* with the full name and address of its owner. Inquiries were made, and the matter was placed in the hands of Detective-sergeant Waller and Police-constable Williamson, 142, of the J. division, who a few days afterwards went to the prisoner's house in Bethnal-green, where in a back yard they found this dog and another chained up. When charged the prisoner, in reply, simply said 'All right,' but when taken before the police magistrate he said he gave 30*s.* for one and 4*l.* for the other. No money was found upon him, but a piece of 'spiced liver' and strap. Since this case has been pending Mr. Claremont's dog has been twice stolen, it is presumed by some of the prisoner's companions.—The jury found the prisoner 'Guilty.'—Warder Humphreys having proved a former conviction, the prisoner was then tried for stealing the silver collar and found 'Guilty.' Several other previous convictions were proved against him, including four or five terms of 18 months' imprisonment and five years' penal servitude.—The Assistant-Judge sentenced him to 18 calendar months for stealing the dog and five years' penal servitude for stealing the collar. As these sentences run concurrently, it practically amounts to a sentence of five years' penal servitude."

What a glorious confusion is Law in England—with vengeance! Eighteen months' penal slavery for theft of a dog and five years for the theft of the same dog's collar! This is more than any fellah in the East, Egyptian, Indian, Chinese or Japanese, can understand! The Western Sphinx—Britannia—must solve her own riddle. The puzzle becomes the more puzzling because even, according to that commercial criterion which the British honour above others, doggy was more valuable than his necklace. This particular dog is valued at over a thousand Rupees (£80). There are many of Her Majesty's lieges of every color ready to sell themselves for less than £80 each. The Hindus worship the cow. Have we not here a clue to the British cult? Few Hindus, at any rate, are devout enough to be willing to pay Rs. 1,000 for his Bhagavati incarnate. Certainly, a dog or for that matter, a dog's inanimate belonging in England is more honored and better protected than a man in India.

A HEARTLESS villain!—

"William George Thompson, 29, described as a butler, was indicted for having obtained by false and fraudulent pretences from Anne Moden, a single woman, residing at 11, Stanley-road, Fulham, S.W., the sum of 30*l.* with intent to cheat and defraud. Mr. George Paul Taylor prosecuted.—It appeared from the evidence that the prosecutrix, who is a domestic servant, met the prisoner accidentally in August of last year, and struck up an acquaintance which ripened into friendship, with the result that he promised to marry her. Soon after making this promise he told her he had taken a public house, but had not got quite enough money to purchase it, and persuaded her to lend him her savings (30*l.*). Soon after that he seduced her, and she is now very near her confinement. All his statements were proved to be untrue, and he was shown to be a heartless villain.—The jury found the prisoner guilty.—Mr. G. P. Taylor then informed the Court that for a very long time past the prisoner had behaved in a precisely similar manner to other young women in fact he was a perfect scoundrel. There was one young woman who still believed that the prisoner would ultimately marry her, and from her he had succeeded in obtaining money after seduction, under his promise to marry her.—Mr. Fletcher sentenced the prisoner to five years' penal servitude.—The gentlemen of the jury made a collection amongst themselves for the poor defrauded prosecutrix, which was added to by his lordship, Admiral Olliver (who was a witness in the case), Mr. Noble, one of the Justices of the Peace, and other persons present, who thus practically showed their sympathy. The total amount collected was 9*l.* 13*s.*"

A TERRIBLE but not uncommon landslip is reported from Switzerland. It did not occur at once, there were rather a series of falls, the first occurring at half-past three in the afternoon, between Burglen and Spiringen. It shook the houses in Altdorf 5 miles distant from Spiringen as if by an earthquake, followed by an enormous cloud of dust. An hour after, an entire flank of the range Spitzen—the highest peak of which is nearly 5,000ft.—toppled over the doomed hamlet of Hellprœchtig, a mile distant from Altdorf. An eyewitness states that it seemed as if the end of the world had come. The roar resembled several batteries of artillery. Professor HERIM of Zurich measures the debris at nearly 400,000 cubic mètres. At the Elm landslip a few years ago, the debris was calculated at 10 millions of cubic mètres, and Gordan, early in the present century, was overwhelmed with a mass estimated at 15 millions. At the Diablerets slip, the cubic mètres went up to 50 millions.

MAHARAJA DHULIP SINGH's son, Prince ALBERT VICTOR DHULIP SINGH, who is a godson of Her Majesty, having been educated at Eton, is now passing through the Royal Military College at Sandhurst, preparatory to obtaining a Commission, while the father, with one Sikh attendant, SUJAN SINGH, is in Russia, paying court to the great semi-official publicist of Moscow, M. KATKOFF, editor of the *Moscow Gazette*—a sort of Russian *Pioneer*—in order to get an opportunity of wreaking his vengeance on the faint-hearted British,

who, in taking away his kingdom, did not take his life nor even pick out his eyes, as his wiser father would have done.

ON the 24th May at Her Majesty's Birthday in this the Jubilee year, she received at Balmoral an unusually large number of letters and telegrams of congratulation from all parts of the Empire.

At Lord LYON's annual dinner at the British Embassy in Paris on the Queen's Birthday, Maharaja HOLKAR was present, attended by Sir LEPEL GRIFFIN.

On the same day Cuch Behar and the Jodhpur Minister accompanied the Prince of Wales to the ceremony of trooping the colors and guardmounting.

The Rao of Cutch, accompanied by his brother Kumar SHRI KALUBA, and Colonel G. GOODFELLOW, Resident, paid his first formal visit to the Secretary of State at the India Office on the 20th May.

They were on a subsequent date received by the Prince of Wales at Marlborough House. So were the Nizam's representative Nawab Amir-i-Kabir Asman Jah Bahadoor, attended by Col. COCHRAN and Captain ABDULAH BEG.

## Editorial Notes.

RUSSIA is indebted for her first railways to British engineering as well as British capital. But though she may still borrow money of foreign Baniyas, she no longer is dependent as before on the science and skill of Western Europe. The way in which she is perfecting her communications with the more distant provinces, is most creditable. She is pushing up the railway towards India with almost Yankee despatch. Under the direction of General ANNEUKOFF, full 418 miles of the iron-road with telegraph has been laid, from Oujoun Ada, the Cis-Caspian terminus, to Chaharjui. Thence a branch is under rapid construction extending to Kham-i-Ab, on the Afghan frontier, while by the end of the year, the extension from the Oxus to Samarcand is expected to be ready.

WE are truly glad to see the strenuous efforts which our Mahomedan brethren are making to make up for their past indifference in modern education. Latterly, they are filling the schools and colleges in shoals. As they are, most of them, ethnically not different from the Hindus, these young men are making good progress. We do not lay much stress on the fact of one hundred and fifty Mahomedans having passed the matriculation, including all who had been sent up from the Calcutta Medresse. Every body has passed in the Jubilee year. To us, the proof unmistakable of progress and the fact for gratulation is the superiority in quality exhibited by Mahomedans. Two Mahomedan youths, both *clerks* of the Presidency College, have specially distinguished themselves above most students of all creeds. One of them, ABDUL MEJID, in the last examination for the bachelor's degree, has taken double honors, in Philosophy and English, standing 3rd and 4th respectively in order of merit. The other, ABDUR RAHEEM, in the M. A. Examination, stood first in English, above the heads not only of Hindus, but all, whether Americans, Parsees, Eurasians, and British. That is a proud result for their community. For ourself, having always regarded the Mussulmans as an integral part of the Indian nation, who must be enlightened and strong in knowledge and resources before there could be any genuine national progress, we can truly say that we rejoice to see the Mahomedans thus coming forward as the most hopeful fact for our people.

WE read:—

"Circular Orders have been issued by the Bombay High Court regarding the marks of courtesy which should be paid to native gentlemen of rank and position when giving evidence. Gentlemen ranking as first class Sirdars should be provided with a chair on the raised platform on which the presiding officer of the Court sits, and should be permitted to give their evidence standing. Sirdars of the second or third class should be provided with chairs in a convenient place in the Court, below the raised platform on which the presiding officer of the Court sits, and should give their evidence sitting. All Sirdars or native gentlemen of similar rank, however, should stand while the affirmation or oath is being administered to them."

We confess we do not understand the *rationale* of the new procedure. Perhaps some of our Western contemporaries will be able to explain why First Class Nobles should be subjected to the punishment of standing like bad boys while giving their deposition—an operation



that might take up hours—while Second Class men (for nobles are men, after all,) might go through their disagreeable obligation at their ease, sitting. It would be worth while being Second Class on the Western side. The Government may make a good thing by granting patents for a consideration. We should not be surprised to hear our suggestion anticipated by the ruling Sawney of the Central Provinces.

THE *Pioneer*—or some brother officer through the *Pioneer*—envies General NORMAN, (formerly of the Supreme Council of India since of the Indian Council "at Home," now Governor of Jamaica), and of course easily lapses in taste. Our contemporary is a very Prince of the Press—Princely not in fortune alone, but also in disposition. With princes more than any others, to be out of sight is out of mind. Even so with the *Pioneer*, a subaltern in office in India is worth more than a General on the retired list in the mother country. The latter might still be entitled to a measure of courtesy were he also a Jack in office at Home, in connection with India. Doubtless when in India, Sir HENRY NORMAN received his due *pooja* with all the great gods of Olympus, from the organ of the Services. But since then he has been steadily going down, and now he is no better than a colonial Governor and even that not "of the first water," as the *Pioneer* would say. It was bad enough that a Governor of Jamaica in these latter days should be advanced in the Jubilee *Gazette* to the Grand Cross of the Bath, in company with contemporaries like Sir CHARLES BROWNLOW and Sir EDWIN JOHNSON, but three weeks before, it turns out, his name appeared with one or two others as appointed "to the First Class of Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George." This is too much! It is enough to make one lose one's wits and the cunning of one's hand. The *Pioneer* breaks out in angry reflections and awkward metaphors:—

"What Sir Henry Norman has been doing lately to bring down an avalanche of distinctions is not very apparent."

As for his Governorship:—

"The post in these times is scarcely one which affords opportunities of distinction sufficient for earning decorations of the first water at the rate of two a month."

Decorations of the first order—or "water"! One would suppose from the language that Sir HENRY had managed to get the Garter.

If social reform is wanted among Hindus and Mahomedans in Asia, it is scarcely less needed for the Christian communities of the West. There may still be a difference but it is more of form than of substance. Thus, if polygamy is institutional in the East, it is not unknown as a practice in the West. Perhaps the advantage lies with the former. As an institution it is subject to well-known limitations and checks; and it is not so demoralising in its effects. As an illicit practice, it may be carried to any lengths, and carried on in the most unsuspected quarters and in diverse ways.

The evil of Kulinism in Bengal is one of the stock topics of the missionary and the philanthropist. The custom is very much on the wane—indeed a good deal extinct. Would that the same could be said of the Kulinism on the sly of Europe and America! We fear the progress of wealth and vanity, and the distaste for matrimony engendered by the cost of maintaining wives, the advance of freemasonry and the attractions of club life—both excluding women—the taste for travel or rather gadding about in the wide world, the passion for freedom and, in fine, the modern spirit of unrest, directly tend to the development of prostitution, open and secret. Nor are the well-to-do classes the only sinners, though they have the least excuse. The poor too lapse in their own way, but they lapse all the same.

Talk of Hindoo polygamy! There are Christian Kulins who, for matrimonial capacity, would beat hollow many Bengalis. Here is a poor German driver in a small brewery who would receive the honor of the head of the largest fish served on table all to himself in Bikram-pore—the seat of BULLAL SEN who instituted the Bengali Peerage:—

"George Amberg has only been in this country a few years, and during that time has married four different women, one of whom lives in Boston, another in Brooklyn, a third in Jersey City, and one at No. 1243, Washington Avenue, New York, who was the last victim, and who is now mourning the sudden departure of her husband for some unknown place. The cause of this sudden flight was the appearance of a fifth wife with two children. The latter arrived from Germany a few days ago in search of her truant husband, to whom she was married six years ago in that country. She had not heard from him for a long time and set out to look him up. She has friends in this city who aided her in her search, and in a few days Amberg was found to be at the brewery. The woman's friends called there

the other evening, inquired for Amberg, and learned that he was married and living with his wife in Washington Avenue. Thither the inquirers went and found Mrs. Amberg taking care of an infant. Amberg learned of his German wife's presence in this city when he came home after his last wife had been visited. On the following morning he obtained an advance of 15 dols from his employers and left town. It was learned at the brewery, that out of his wages amounting to 18 dols, he had to pay 8 dols, of it to his Boston wife, and 7 dols to his Brooklyn wife. It has also been an open secret that these five wives are not all that bear his name. There are children living by six of his wives."—*New York Tribune*.

Nor is this an exceptional case. Only last year a smooth-faced, mealy-mouthed American adventurer easily got himself married to a respectable lady in the north of England. After enjoying all the joys of a "domesticated son-in-law" for some months, he suddenly decamped. It afterwards transpired that he had his first wife and children by her in America, and it was suspected that he had other wives in Great Britain. Three or four years ago, a pluralist became known in the United States who was claimed by half a dozen ladies, every one of whom would be happy to live with him, notwithstanding his heartless crime. We have read of other such cases.

THE so-called Marquis TSENG (for he is no more a marquis than maharaja) having seen the world has returned, and now he is astonishing the good people at home by a sight of the great change that has taken place in his ideas and manners by his long residence in the land of the blue devils. His good lady, though an unlettered Mongol Peri who never strayed out of the Peking district, like a prudent wife who knows the Celestial discipline for her sex, seconds him, *volens volens*. Glad enough to have got back her lord, she not only readily falls in with his views, but makes heroic efforts to second him in his assaults on Celestial Custom. They not only visit together at all the foreign legations like a European couple, but they also freely receive at their own house European visitors. Their conduct has excited the surprise and admiration of the local European society. One journal, the *Chinese Times*, talks of my Lord and Lady TSENG'S "challenging the very citadel of petrified conservatism." For our part, we refuse any longer to hear of the petrified conservatism of the Far East. These ultra-Orientalists are an enigma. How of a sudden in one day they changed the political constitution and the whole social system in Japan! What Japan has done, China may do. Who knows that the TSENGS have not the secret countenance of the Court? As one who had been long in Europe, the reformers at home may be using him as a convenient feeler. Even if the TSENGS are acting on their own hook, a great man may be singular without offence yet without influence.

We are not sure of the facts, after all. Does Lady TSENG visit, and receive the visits of, Chinese gentlemen? That does not follow as a matter of course. We speak from our experience of Indian reformers. KESHUB CHUNDER SEN guarded his wife as jealously as a Mussulman Nawab, though he preached female emancipation and the rest of the shibboleth. Others guard their ladies from the observation of their native friends only.

One final question. Does Lady TSENG walk or limp? If she can walk upstairs without assistance, that is a good instalment of progress.

THE British are admittedly deficient in the faculty for pageants and commemorations *et hoc genus*. They have no delicacy of hand. See how the Primrose League had almost been done for by the silliness of the rank and file of the "stupid party," until Lord SALISBURY was compelled, in the interests of his party, to identify himself with one of the distinctive ideas of his late Chief to whom he was never thoroughly and heartily reconciled. The present Jubilee too has suffered from the same national failing. Everything is being done to discredit it, and from the highest quarters, there was, to begin with, no statement of objects put forward. A vague word has been passed to all the peoples to commemorate the occasion in a befitting manner, but there is neither definition nor test of commemoration to guide the subject population. So the Jubilee appears a monster of capacious stomach. It swallows every thing, bites at any thing that comes within reach. Its capacity and connections are endless. Every thing in this blessed year is of the Jubilee, not only jubilative but also commemorative. Anything may be reckoned to belong to it. Nothing can be done or conceived that may not be turned to account of the Jubilee. Nothing escapes its greedy clutches. The Jubilee is the great Appropriation Clause. Frequently its "annexations"

are simply misappropriations. No gift of any kind is made by any one but it is a Jubilee gift. Does a man give a feast to his caste men? he gives it a Jubilee construction upon a customary act. Does any body redeem an old promise to do a gracious act? he is supposed to be moved to it by his sympathy for the Jubilee. If a man performs his father's obsequial ceremony or raise a mausoleum to an ancestor, he may, such is the prevailing looseness and insincerity on the subject, he may pretend and may be taken, to serve the cause of the Jubilee.

SIR ASHLEY EDEN, ex-Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and a member of the India Council, is, we are sorry to learn, suffering from a paralytic stroke. His condition is precarious. We hope the worst issue will be averted.

SIR COMER PETHERAM has been granted 28 days' leave. He avails himself also of the two months' Dussera Vacation, commencing on the 22nd August, and goes home. Mr. Justice MITER will act as Chief Justice during Sir COMER'S absence.

This is as it should be, and we are truly glad to find that the Chief Justice has thus silenced the gossips of the Court who were so sure that either Mr. Justice TOTTENHAM or Mr. Justice PRINSEP would, by something like a sharp move, be allowed the opportunity of filling the acting place, over the head of the able and esteemed Bengali Judge. The honour of the Judges should, if possible, be above suspicion of even a venial intrigue, and we rejoice to find Sir COMER jealous of his own.

THE Grand SOBRANJI have fixed upon Prince FERDINAND of Saxe Coburg and Gotha as king of Bulgaria—under sanction of the Powers, we believe.

ON Thursday night Mr. GLADSTONE moved the rejection of the Irish Crimes Bill—as unwarranted, creating new offences and placing perpetually the liberties of Irishmen at the mercy of Government. Mr. BALFOUR replied, justifying the proposed legislation as a necessary forerunner to remedial measures and a defence against the law of terrorism. The division was to have been taken last night.

THE helplessness of the Howrah Municipality is to be pitied. Scarcely has it recovered from the effects of its costly criminal prosecution of Messrs. REID & Co., than it feels itself called upon to defend its property against the encroachments of another Annexander in the firm of Ahnutt & Co. This time too it is some dock-improvement against which the Howrah Corporation is in arms. But this time the learned Doctor PILCHER has grown wiser, in his own belief, and has decided to proceed against the offending mud dock-owners by injunctions and otherwise through the Civil Courts. It need not be said that Dr. PILCHER is no Doctor of Law—unless in the sense that chaffing schoolboys attach to the degree of L. L. D.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 1887.

### THE LOSS OF THE SIR JOHN LAWRENCE.

We fear the public do not show anything like an adequate appreciation of the havoc from the late storm at the head of the Bay of Bengal. We all know that there has been a cyclone—a rather small one—resulting in the loss of two vessels, one a passenger steamer carrying pilgrims to Pooree to the number of some hundreds, who have all gone down with her. That is all. We all think the loss of lives heavy, out of all proportion to the occasion, and have bewailed the fate of the unfortunate men and women on board the *Sir John Lawrence*, and commiserated the situation of their scarcely less unfortunate surviving relatives and friends at home. Against this, the European community have a set off in the pleasing reflections they have been able to draw.

A European philosophical poet of antiquity has acknowledged—

*Suave, mari magno turbantibus acquora ventis,  
E terra magnum alterius spectare laborem.*

The sternness of the Rontan' character has no doubt been its reproach. But this man was of no ordinary antique clay. He was at once a poet and a philosopher. Of course, he was no Christian. But it will not be difficult to match that passage in the more enlightened and humane literatures of modern Europe. One of the most distinctly Christian poets, himself one of the gentlest spirits whose lot was cast in the harsh, hard, energetic, jabbering, warring European world, has borrowed from the Latin and improved upon the suggestion of LUCRETIVS. As the *Pioneer* has lately quoted the most hackneyed passage from the *Task*, a Hindu writer may venture on referring to the well-drawn picture in COWPER commencing with the line—

'Tis pleasant through the loophole of retreat.

Another writer of a more universal reputation, the European CHANAKYA whose maxims constitute the true ethical guide of Europe, has made another and a more important confession. He is no man for mincing matters, this moralist. The relentless penetration of ROCHEFOUCAULD has probed down the human heart to a recess which hides its satisfaction at the misfortunes of our best friends. What wonder that the sympathy for sufferers of another colour and a different creed should be a thin stuff. However real and unconventional the pensive regard of our Anglo-Indian fellow-subjects on the present event, it is not all sad! Their almost total escape from the calamity can not fail to be a source of lively satisfaction. For, with the exception of the scarcely half-a-dozen Captains and officers—who, by the way, may be regarded as suicides—all the victims were natives. The Europeans may well congratulate themselves that they do not believe in Jagannath. With the limitation imposed by the outspoken French sage, the good feeling of the European community is beyond question. It was shown in the messages of condolence sent by both the Lieutenant-Governor and the Viceroy and his Private Secretary. Nor was it confined to words. The Sheriff of Calcutta, Sir ALEXANDER WILSON, of the leading firm of Messrs. JARDINE, SKINNER & Co., promptly opened a Relief Fund as soon as it was understood that the vessels had been lost.

So far so good, no doubt. But it is not enough. We see with regret a feeling of self-satisfaction that all that could be done has been or was being done. This feeling is not warranted. Yet it is not due to callousness or absence of will to do duty, however unpleasant. Rather does it proceed from want of sufficient "detachment." Somehow, neither our European Government nor our European fellow-subjects have dwelt upon the occurrence or pondered on the incidents. No wonder they have failed to grasp the depth and proportions of the calamity. Wanting the necessary knowledge of native life, they could not think out the problem to the full purpose, yet they might have exercised their heads on the leading facts patent to all.

It is not often that such an event takes place. Cyclones recur periodically, storms are common, and losses at sea are frequent. But the Creator is the Preserver. God Almighty himself is interested in the maintenance of his works. It is very rarely that Nature perpetrates such a *massacre en masse*

at sea. On rivers we know that the crew are always safe whatever betide the boat. At sea also not only the crew but the passengers and the records of the vessel are usually saved in case of loss of the ship, the latter receiving precedence. To our mind there is nothing more affecting than the accounts of this operation. Nothing establishes the superiority of Western civilization and of the Western man than the heroic sacrifices made on such occasions and the calm sense of duty shown—the unflinching discipline exacted and the submission to command ungrudgingly paid to the bitter end. It is this high morale of the British that minimises the accident at sea and their results. The cases of ships perishing with all on board are rare indeed, and rarely are so many on board any vessel as those who crowded the *Sir John Lawrence*. We have almost to go behind the current century for an accident at sea on the same scale. We are reminded of the sinking of the *Royal George* man-of-war of 100 guns, Admiral KEMPENFELT's flag-ship, with all on board, while at anchor off Spithead, in fair weather, by the rolling of the guns to one side from a sudden gust of wind, on the 28th June 1782. The poetry of COWPER, who has sung it in some spirited stanzas, will always keep that incident alive in British memory. JOSEPH HADYN gives the loss at a 1000 souls, but COWPER mourns the death of 800, and for once the poet is a better witness of actual truth than the matter-of-fact chronicler. The precise WADE says, "Four hundred men, and as many women and children, perished; admiral Kempenfelt among them" (p. 523.) The next disaster involving anything like a similar loss of life took place in 1800 in the burning of the *Queen Charlotte* man-of-war of 100 guns in Leghorn with nearly 700 seamen out of a crew of 850. There have been within the last fifteen or twenty years, if we may trust our unaided memory, one or two colossal accidents of the kind, one being the foundering of a passenger steamer in one of the great American lakes, and the other the loss of a great emigrant ship in her passage to Australia. But as a matter of fact the loss of more than 500 men in one fell swoop at sea, independent of war, is, fortunately, most rare, occurring not oftener than once in a century or perhaps twice. Rarer still is the total loss of all souls, several hundred in number, from on board a single vessel. In the destruction of the *Queen Charlotte* war-vessel, 150 men escaped. In every case the ship's records and a number of passengers, chiefly women and children and sickmen, are carefully sent out in boats. In nearly every, some men are providentially saved to tell the tale. During all these one hundred and five years, the long record of calamity to shipping does not contain a case of absolute unqualified destruction like what has befallen the *Sir John Lawrence* and her human contents. For the present case is harder than that of the much-mourned KEMPENFELT and his companions in death. Both disasters are equally tragic in the end of all on board either vessel. If the accident to the *Royal George* was more dramatic in its unexpectedness, that to the *Sir John Lawrence* is perhaps more romantic in the uncertainty of her fate. The *Royal George* was fished up with the dead bodies of those who had gone down in her. The *Sir John Lawrence* went out to the wide sea and is probably now at the bottom of Old Ocean, but no one knows where. In this the true analogue of her case is to be found in the fate of the *Blenheim*, commanded by Admiral TROWBRIDGE, (one of NELSON's lieutenants) which was separated in the

Indian Ocean from the vessels under her convoy and never heard of again, notwithstanding every search made, among others, by Sir THOMAS TROWBRIDGE's own son, who went out on purpose. The *Sir John Lawrence*, though a British steamer, was on her last voyage a Hindu pilgrim vessel, with more than a thousand poor natives of India on board, bound for the shrine of Jagannath, or an equally exhaustive search would have been made for her. Had she disappeared with but a hundred Europeans, the great Himalayan chain would have shaken to its roots and the gods would scarcely have been suffered in peace to pursue the pleasant game of lawn tennis with grass widows. Certainly all the vessels in the ports of Calcutta, Madras, Chittagong, Moulmein and Colombo, would have stirred up all the waters of the Bay in search earnest and persistent.

The loss of the *Blenheim* is the subject of one of the best productions of iron-hearted Sheffield's tender poet. The loss of the *Sir John Lawrence*, which has desolated so many homes in Bengal, has been appropriately sung by a Bengali song-writer of repute, Baboo GANGADHAR CHATTERJEE. Beyond this, there is no other record—not even the names of the pilgrims of death are preserved. They were packed up like herrings and packed off to the sea, without the honour not denied to inanimate goods, which are rather carefully noted. Accordingly, the lines of MONTGOMERY apply to them even better than to the party of the *Blenheim*.

Throughout the living world  
This sole memorial of their lot  
Remains,—they were and they are not.

For the last three weeks we had been wondering on the silence of Government on the *Sir John Lawrence* disaster. Every *Gazette* we opened for some information on the subject, but were disappointed. It is satisfaction to know therefore that an enquiry has been ordered. We hope Government is now in possession of facts to go upon. It would have been criminal to continue the silence longer. The apathy of our countrymen has saved Government much annoyance, but we are glad to see that the Government is not the less moved to arrive at the truth of the past and to provide against the future. The points for enquiry that suggest to us are:—

1. The sea-worthiness of the vessel.
2. The capacity of the vessel.
3. The qualifications of the Master.
4. His habits, temper and conduct in general and his state and behaviour on the evening the vessel left the port.
5. The number of tickets sold for that voyage and the rates charged.
6. The number of tickets refunded.
7. The passengers taken in and sent out at the port of embarkation and intermediately.
8. The treatment of passengers on arrival on board and during the passage from the boats to the vessel.
9. The manner of stocking the decks with the human freight.

The enquiry had probably been deferred pending the return of the pilgrims from Pooree. But all the pilgrims have not yet come back and the investigation which commences on Monday next should not be hurried through. Facilities should be given to such native gentlemen as may be coming forward, and others who know be asked to give evidence. We understand one of the returned, who with his party were denied admittance to the vessel, is just now laid up. He should not be left out in the Enquiry though he was fortunate enough to be kept out of the steamer and receive back the passage money. It would be well were some competent native gentlemen to form part of the Court of Enquiry.

Except in one instance which we noticed, we are not aware how the Relief Committee are engaging themselves and how and whom they have relieved or

propose doing. The subscriptions are published in only the Calcutta English dailies, but the other labors of the Committee are yet a hidden page. Their publication may help the Committee's cause and the Enquiry.

### "THE REIGN OF LAW"

#### AS ILLUSTRATED IN METROPOLITAN BENGAL.

MR. TUTE is one of the rising spirits of the Indian Covenanted Civil Service. He is just now engaged in the amiable work of storming the heart of the public by a philanthropic movement in the rear. At this moment when public attention has been drawn to the subject of pilgrimage to Pooree and public sympathy roused by the loss of a great pilgrim steamer, he is exerting himself properly and prudently in raising funds for a hospital for pilgrims to Pooree. Such exertions ought to be a set off against many minor transgressions. Philanthropy is, however, a new rôle for Mr. TUTE. His proclivity seems to be in the direction of the prestige of Bureaucracy—towards inspiring awe rather than good will and respect. He has of late years been steadily carving out a place for himself among the MOSLEYS, and O'DOYLEYS and NEWBERRYS. He is destined to live in the memory of the people, and in the criminal records of the High Court. He first disclosed the stuff whereof he is made in Jessore, by interrupting the proceedings at the great Jhinkergacha rayyets' meeting. Before leaving that District, he laid the foundations of a solid celebrity.

HULLODHUR BISWAS, a poor blind man, of Purana Kusba, Jessore, obtained permission from the Municipality to erect a thatched house and began building the same. The site fronted the Magistrate's house and of course the hut when it popped up its head was a dire impertinence. Accordingly, Mr. TUTE protested against the erection in a letter to the Vice-Chairman on the ground that the place had hitherto been open and must remain so. He followed up the letter by a personal visit to the blind man. It was a visitation. The ruler of the district taxed his blind subject for setting up a nuisance or at least an eyesore to the Magistrate, and when HULLODHUR referred to the permission of the municipality, the Magistrate freely abused him for the audacity of reasoning with him. Before leaving, he threatened destruction of the house unless it was voluntarily taken down. We introduced HULLODHUR as a poor blind man. The table is about to be turned, and we may as well begin to speak of the Magistrate as poor Mr. TUTE. Blind, BISWAS no doubt was and poor into the bargain—nay, doubly poor as bereft of sight and unblessed with scarcely more than a pauper's portion; but he was very far from poor in soul. His spirit was a surprise to the Magistrate. Little did Mr. TUTE suspect the might that slumbered in the peasant's arm. This BISWAS was more of a rude inglorious MILTON—as a sturdy citizen. Possibly there were Puritans and Republicans about who had been provoked against the local Stuart régime. Evidently, HULLODHUR received assistance. BISWAS heard the Magistrate in meek silence as befitted a blind man, and then later on answered him by a criminal prosecution for trespass and abusive and threatening language. The development of the scandal was, however, arrested by the Deputy Baboo CHUNDI DAS GHOSE, who impressed on the blind man the unwisdom of the rash step against the Head of the District, and possibly the many complications in its train. BISWAS withdrew the charge, but the Commissioners stuck to their Resolution granting permission for the hut, and Mr. TUTE resolved to see the hut removed. He conceived himself, as Head of the District responsible for its safety, competent under the municipal law itself to carry out his determination, and issued a prohibitory order to the Municipal Commissioners, thus:—

"I hereby, under section 63, Act III of 1884, prohibit the execution of the resolution of the Commissioners of the Jessore Municipality, permitting Hullohdhur Biswas to erect a hut or huts in the site permitted by them as likely to cause serious injury and annoyance to the European community of Jessore."

This order, the Chairman communicated to HULLODHUR, at the same time directing him "to act according to orders until orders regarding the injunction issued by Mr. TUTE are received." BISWAS was advised that this was no order for pulling the house down, and so he made no stir. Six months after, Mr. TUTE informed HULLODHUR direct that the Lieutenant-Governor had confirmed the injunction issued by the Magistrate and further ordered him to

"remove the hut in question within one week of the receipt of this notice, on pain of prosecution under section 188 Indian Penal Code." HULLODHUR was again advised that the order was not legal and to pave its way to the High Court he suffered the District authorities to take their own course. Having gone up to the Lieutenant-Governor, and even secured His Honor—doubtless in the usual way, through the good offices of the Secretariat—Mr. TUTE could scarcely in dignity or decency remain silent. So a summons was served on HULLODHUR to answer a charge under the section of the Penal Code of which he was warned. The case came up before Mr. TUTE'S Deputy Baboo MOHINY MOHUN CHUCKERBUTTY. The first day that it was heard the first thing that the Deputy did was to call on the accused to make his defence—to say what he had to say in answer to the charge of having disobeyed the order of the Magistrate, and to produce witnesses. He so far identified himself with the prosecution as to relieve it of the necessity of making out a *prima facie* case. At the next hearing, the Deputy Baboo expressly informed the defence that the prosecution would not examine witnesses. On the same day he examined two witnesses for the defence. On the third day, with examination of another witness for the defence, the case closed, at least for the defence. Another day was reserved for argument. On that day, for the first time, however, the Deputy Magisterial mind was apparently visited by a vague suspicion. He tried to allay it. He examined the District Superintendent of Police on behalf of the prosecution. This European officer, Mr. LIVESAY, probably under the influence of the Resolution on the Rungpore Deer Case with which at the close of his administration Sir RIVERS THOMPSON astonished Bureaucracy and agreeably surprised the people, proved little better than a traitor. He actually deposed that HULLODHUR'S house was no inconvenience or annoyance to him or any one else that he knew of. The day being at his own instance thus consumed, the Deputy kept to his former order and graciously allowed another day for the address of the defence. Two days after, as might be expected, this loyal Deputy convicted HULLODHUR, and sentenced him to—four days' imprisonment and fine of Rs. 5 with the alternative of a week's further jail.

There was of course a rush to the Judge, but that functionary was not sympathetic enough. In fact, he failed in his duty in such an obvious case of *Zooloom*—rank oppression under colour of law—in not there and then granting the prisoner freedom on giving security for appearance when he was wanted. So the poor blind man—as valuable a citizen as any among the Queen's loyal subjects, and, as the event proved, guiltless of any wrong—was dragged to jail. After he had passed in prison the term allotted him by a vindictive magistracy, His Honour proceeded with the farce of justice. While holding that the order for destruction of the hut was bad, he was of opinion that the prohibitory order under the Municipal Act (which was not put in) ought to have been obeyed, and dismissed the appeal. At this stage, the case was taken up to the High Court. The Chief Justice and Mr. Justice CHUNDER MADHUB GHOSE have quashed the conviction and ordered refund of the fine. But who shall refund the jail part of the mulct? Who shall recompense the poor blind man for the days passed, under an unrighteous compulsion, in prison?

Speaking of the Magistrate's order under the Municipal Act, Sir COMER PETHERAM remarks:—

"Now that order professes to be made under the provisions of section 63, and the only question that is necessary for us to decide is whether that is an order which the magistrate is justified in making under the provisions of section 63. Section 63 provides that 'the magistrate of the district may by order in writing suspend within the limits of the district the execution of any resolution or order of the commissioners.' So far as the section is concerned, the power given to the magistrate, with reference to the resolutions of the commissioners, is a power to suspend these resolutions pending an application to the local Government. That is not what the magistrate has done in this case; what he has done is absolutely to prohibit the building of the hut; and on that we think, that he has exceeded his authority. He gives no special intimation to Hullohdhur Biswas, as merely communicates the order to the commissioners. It then comes its way into the hands of the chairman who, it appears, without communicating with the commissioners, who had only two to Hullohdhur Biswas, however that notice was communicated in the house; Biswas, who as far as we can ascertain, was then to build after that but there is no evidence before us that he continued to build after that notice was communicated to him, and it would appear that the house is not finished to this day. Hullohdhur Biswas himself swears that the thing was done to it afterwards. So the order of the magistrate amounts to an order upon Hullohdhur Biswas that he should destroy the house that he has built, unless there is any provision of law which would entitle the magistrate to pass such an order, Hullohdhur Biswas would not be convicted of having disobeyed any order of a law."

ful authority. Now, in the first place, it is not an order that he should pull down the house; it is an order on the commissioners amounting to a direction to them not to give him permission to build the hut. It is sent by the magistrate to the commissioners, it is not sent by him to Holodhur Biswas, but to the chairman of a municipality who communicates it, as I have already said, to Holodhur without any reference to the commissioners, although it was expressly different from a resolution passed by the commissioners before. In addition to that it was not addressed to Holodhur Biswas at all. In my opinion therefore it is not an order to this man directing him to pull down his house, and in that view of the case it is not necessary to see whether the magistrate had the power to pass such an order or not.

As far as we can see there is nothing to show, on the evidence in this case, that this man has disobeyed any order of the magistrate, whether lawful or otherwise."

Grateful for the justice of the order, and with all due deference to both the Honourable Judges of Her Majesty's High Court, we feel almost disappointed. After so much ado, the law ought, if possible, to have been cleared up. The highest Court avoided the construction of the Section 63, which, intended to keep the Commissioners straight, may be turned to such an engine of oppression. It is an importation from the N. W. P. and Oudh Municipal laws and worked by Mr. TUTE in the spirit of the N. W. P. Civilians. It would have been well if Sir COMER PETHERAM gave his opinion on that provision in our Mofussil Municipal law.

#### SIR ALFRED LYALL.

##### Poet and Literateur.

In his speech in the House of Lords on the Arni Gad case, Lord Stanley of Alderley remarked—"Their Lordships would probably be told---and, if so, he should entirely concur with the statement---that Sir Alfred Lyall was a man of great ability, culture and energy, and an ornament of the Indian Civil Service."

To this part of Lord Stanley's speech, especially the particular reference he made to Sir Alfred Lyall's genius as a poet and writer (of other than semi-secret, abusive, and defamatory official circulars) not Sir Alfred's worst enemy, if he have such, will take exception---nor the Lieutenant-Governor's most wronged victims, can with any candour object. Every one must acknowledge this much, and concede his or her meed of praise and admiration to the man of letters, whatever may be thought of the administrator or the Queen's servant. India has produced few poets, especially in modern times, who for fire and truth of delineation of both native and other characters and boldness of description can vie with Alfred Lyall the poet. When at some future period his life shall be written and his pride and haughtiness rebuked and his official obstinacy laughed at and derided,---when the name and fame of this satrap of the North West, shall, for his action towards the poor, oppressed and weak, be humbled in the dust,---when the fact of how he attempted even criminal protection to an erring brother civilian, is with unfaltering justice commented on by historians,---then shall his talents as a writer and his genius as a poet stand him in good stead. Where Sir Alfred Lyall the Lieutenant-Governor of the North West Provinces shall rightly be condemned and despised, the fame of Alfred Lyall the poet shall never die so long as there is a native of India who can read and thoroughly understand the English language. So the sooner Sir Alfred Lyall gives to the world his poems in a collected form so much the better for himself and posterity. For in equal proportion with his bad faith in endeavoring to screen and protect his brother civilians with the regis of his powerful position,---as a poet he with his pen does he visit their various faults and foibles. Perhaps in nothing that he has written is this so clear as in that masterly piece "The Old Pindarrie." For fire and truthfulness of description this hand Alfred Lyall the poet's name down to all posterity and for him the highest place among the Anglo-Indian Poets of the v. In all the various and varied descriptions of India, extant, we shall we get a truer picture of the Indian Civilian than we get in the piece we have named above?

"The big Sahib's tent has gone beneath yon popul tree  
With his crowd of chuprassies and greedy sons of the quill  
I paid them the bribe they wanted."

Then he goes on to shew how he loves and admires his Aryan Brother of Bengal.

"Then he fleeced by a sneaking Baboo  
"With a peon with a badge at his heel."

In the lines which follow this cut, he draws a picture of the Covenanted Civil Service and the feelings inspired in the people by the body so true to fact that no one acquainted with the manners and customs of most of the Burra Sahibs and Chota Sahibs cannot fail to recognize its merit.

"There goes my Lord the Ferringie who speaks so gracious and bland  
But swears like a soul in *Jehannum* if I don't quite understand.

At first he calls me Sahib, then he calls me *Gudda ka dada*

And sometimes he winds by calling me *soor, budmash, haramzadeh.*"

Words never to be forgotten, either by him or by the Natives of India, as they have led to great things, having compelled both Burra Sahibs and Chota Sahibs to use parliamentary language, in their Kutcherrys to all natives of India whether they appear before them as litigants or witnesses.

For all his many faults and failings, Sir Alfred Lyall has feathered his nest and those of his own admirably. Such is luck---such the force of interest. He has probably succeeded by virtue of his defects and follies. He may yet be raised to the peerage for his urbanity and courtesy, for the distinguished manner in which he has ruled his province, for his bravery in attacking and maligning the Chief Justice of his High Court, and, lastly but not by least, for the public-spirited manner, in which, solely for the good of the country, he has given all the best-paid appointments to members of his own Service, whether they were fitted for them or not. This last is his peculiarity that recommends him most to the ruling Bureaucracy and its patrons. If the Government of India had entrusted to him the selection of a bishop for the North-West Provinces, he would probably have recommended some Covenanted civilian, allied to himself either by blood or marriage, for the appointment.

Before closing this, we would strongly recommend Sir Alfred when he has to choose his crest, shield and supporters for his title of Lord Galec, to adopt for the crest a cock with beak open crowing, a head of garlick on either side of the shield as supporters, Caesar's Commentaries on the shield with the words *De bello Gallico* and the mottoe *soor budmash haramzadeh*!

We may as well mention in this connection what is gossiped about in Upper India just now, that Mr. Justice Straight has gone home to try and make things easy for his friend Sir Alfred Lyall. One good turn deserves another. Sir Alfred Lyall did his best to get Mr. Justice Straight Chief Justiceship of the North-West when Sir Comer Petheram was transferred to Calcutta.

#### PRIVY COUNCIL---CRIMINAL APPEAL.

##### JUDGMENT.

Of the Lords of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council on the appeal *in re* Abraham Malory Dillet from the Supreme Court of British Honduras, delivered 19th March, 1887.

PRESENT.---Lord Watson, Lord Fitzgerald, Sir Barnes Peacock.

This appeal is brought by Abraham Malory Dillet of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-law, against a verdict returned by a jury on the 6th September 1884, finding him guilty of the crime of perjury before William Anthony Musgrave, Sheriff who was at that time Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Honduras; and also against a consequential order of the Chief Justice, dated the 27th March 1885, directing the appellants to be struck off the list of practitioners of that Court. Such appeals are of rare occurrence; because the rule has been repeatedly laid down, and has been invariably followed, that Her Majesty will not review or interfere with the course of the criminal proceedings unless it is shewn that by a disregard of the forms of legal process, or by some violation of the principles of natural justice or otherwise, substantial and grave injustice has been done.

Along with his petition for leave to appeal, the appellant produced a printed report of the charge of the Presiding Judge and *inter alia* alleged (Reason XIII) that the Judge made statements to the jury with reference to his conduct on three occasions, of which no evidence had been given at the trial; and he referred in particular to three extracts from the charge, marked respectively A, B and C, calculated to prejudice unduly the minds of the jury against him. By order in Council of the 12th August 1885, Her Majesty directed the petition and these extracts to be referred to the Chief Justice, in order that he might make such observations thereon as he might think fit; and further ordered that he should be at liberty



to appear and show cause against the prayer of the petition. His Honor did not avail himself of the leave thus given him, but forwarded his observations to the Registrar of the Privy Council. These observations were submitted to this Board; and upon their report Her Majesty, by Order in Council of the 3rd April 1886, allowed the appellant to enter and prosecute his appeal upon the ground stated in the thirteenth reason of his petition, namely, that the conviction was obtained in a manner so unsatisfactory that the conviction alone ought not to be conclusive as a ground for striking him off the roll. The Chief Justice was duly served with the appeal, but has not made an appearance.

The prosecution of the appellant for perjury had its origin in these circumstances. The Chief Justice received a communication from Mr. Goodman, the Attorney-General of Honduras, bringing under his notice the conduct of the Appellant in the inferior Court, at two sittings of the Court held upon the 17th June 1884, and in the presence of the Acting Magistrate. His Honor thereupon directed the affidavits of three persons who were present on these occasions to be prepared and submitted to him for his approval and these were subsequently sworn to by the deponents. Two of them, (the Attorney-General and the Acting Magistrate) said that the appellant "appeared to be under the influence of drink;" the third (Cato, the Court crier) said "I saw that he was intoxicated." The Chief Justice appointed the appellant to answer these affidavits, and he accordingly made an affidavit in which he stated that he was "not under the influence of drink," and denied Cato's statement that he was intoxicated. Upon consideration of the statements in his affidavit, the Chief Justice, acting under the authority of 14 and 15 Vict. Cap. 100, which has been extended to Honduras, directed the Attorney-General to prosecute the appellant for perjury and a criminal information was filed by that officer on the 15th August 1884, containing two counts, one founded upon the appellant's contradiction of himself and the Magistrate, and the other upon his contradiction of Cato's statement. The trial commenced on the 25th August 1884 and after occupying eight days terminated in a verdict of guilty by a majority of five to two, accompanied by a recommendation to the sympathy of the Court.

It is very unfortunate that, owing to the fact of there being but one member of the Supreme Court of British Honduras, the trial took place before the same judge who had directed the affidavits to be prepared and submitted to him and had appointed the appellant to answer them, and upon the affidavit and answer being made had directed the prosecution. These circumstances may in some measure account for, although they cannot in the opinion of their Lordships justify many of the observations which were addressed by him to the jury.

The issue which the jury had to try was a very simple one. They had to consider in the first place whether the accused was under the influence of liquor on the occasions libelled; and in the second place whether he knew and believed that he was so at the time when he made affidavit to the contrary. Unless they were satisfied on both these points the jury had no right to find appellant guilty. A man labouring under excitement may appear to others to be under the influence of drink when he is not; and although he is actually under the influence he may be unconscious of the fact. The only question submitted to the jury was whether the appellant's behaviour in court on the 17th June 1884 was due to drink. A misdirection of this kind would not necessarily afford a ground for setting aside a conviction in a Criminal case. But in the extract C which the Chief Justice in his observations states to be substantially correct, he thus put the case against the accused:—"Pause for a second and reflect what the result would be of verdict in favour of Mr. Dillet. It would be to brand the Attorney General of the Colony, a magistrate and others as perjurers, and are you going to brand all the members of my bar as alike perjurers and conspirators? If the jury think so let them do their duty regardless of consequences."

Comment upon this language is needless. It grossly misrepresented the real issue, and was most unfair to the accused, whose acquittal by the jury would have cast no imputation of perjury or even of untruthfulness either upon the officials alluded to or upon the members of the Honduras bar.

The Chief Justice does not in his observations impeach the substantial accuracy of the extract A which is sufficiently vouched by the affidavits produced; but he vindicates the remarks contained in that extract by pointing out that the records in the four cases therein referred to were put in evidence by the prosecutor before the case was closed, and that the appellant was the first to refer to these cases of contempt. Apparently the Chief Justice has failed to appreciate the gravamen of the objections which the appellant urges to the remarks in question, which are, in their Lordships' opinion, well founded. The judge not only uses the records in a manner altogether unwarrantable, but he converts himself into a witness, and without being sworn makes statements to the jury regarding visit of the accused to his (the Chief Justice's) private house, and other matters which are neither to be found in the records nor in the evidence.

The remarks contained in extract B are little, but not much, less objectionable. Their Lordships have not in estimating their

character taken into account a reference which is therein made to a certain tragical or dark transaction. The Chief Justice in his observations states that he has no recollection of making and is under the impression that he did not make, such a reference; and their Lordships have assumed for the purpose of this appeal, that he did not do so, although there are affidavits produced by persons who heard the words, including one Reverend gentleman who took them down in shorthand at the time they were uttered to the jury. It would neither be pleasant nor profitable to criticise more minutely the directions of the Chief Justice to the jury, so far as contained in these extracts. Their Lordships are of opinion that these directions were grievously unjust to the appellant, and in many instances outraged the proprieties of judicial procedure. A conviction obtained by such unworthy means cannot be permitted to stand, and their Lordships will humbly advise Her Majesty to set aside the verdict and conviction appealed from. Seeing that the appellant has already undergone the sentence which followed upon the verdict it is unnecessary to order a new trial. Their Lordships would also humbly advise Her Majesty to reverse the order of the 27th March 1885, removing the appellant from the roll of practitioners of the Supreme Court of British Honduras. Their Lordships will direct a copy of their judgment to be communicated to Her Majesty's Secretary of State.

#### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 17th May 1887.—Mr. W. H. A. St. John Leeds, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Shahabad, is transferred to Patna, and is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Barh sub-division of that district, with effect from the date on which he joined the appointment.

The 28th June 1887.—Baboo Shama Churn Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, is empowered to receive and dispose of applications made under section 118 of the Bengal Tenancy Act in that district.

The 30th June 1887.—Baboo Prosunno Coomar Banerjee is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the 4th grade, and is posted to the sub-division of Behar, in the district of Patna, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Kedar Nath Mookerjee, or until further orders.

Mr. F. B. Taylor, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge, Burdwan, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. R. F. Rampini, or until further orders.

The 1st July 1887.—Moulvi Mohamed-ul-Nobi, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Shahabad, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 7th instant, or from such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Rakhal Das Haldar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is allowed furlough from the 1st instant to the 20th December 1887, inclusive, under section 132, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code.

Moulvi Ahmed, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted temporarily to the Sudder station of the Dacca district.

The 2nd July 1887.—Moulvi Najimuddin Ahmed, Sub-Deputy Collector, Bhagulpore, is allowed leave for a month and a half, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 17th May 1887.

Moulvi Abdul Huq, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Julpigoree, is allowed leave for three months, under section 138-2 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

The 4th July 1887.—Moulvi Gowhur Ally, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Durbhunga, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. G. J. B. T. Dalton, Deputy Commissioner, Julpigoree, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 2nd proximo.

The 5th July 1887.—The following promotions and confirmations are made in the grades of Sub-Deputy Collectors:—

Promoted to the first grade. Baboo Rash Behary Naik, but will continue to act until further orders, as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector.

Confirmed in the first grade. Baboo Kedar Nath Banerjee.

Promoted to the first grade. Baboo Kustori Lal, but will continue to be employed, until further orders, as a Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector.

Promoted temporarily to the first grade. Baboo Suchita Nund Mookerjee, *vice* Baboo Annoda Prosad Pattuck, deceased, Moulvi Mahomed Azhar, *vice* Baboo Shoshi Bhusan Sen, on deputation, Fyzoollah Khan, *vice* Mr. J. C. Lloyd.

Confirmed in the second grade. Moulvi Imdad Ali, Baboo Gogan Chunder Banerjee, Doorga Churn Ghose.

Promoted to the second grade. Baboo Sreenath Chatterjee, but will continue to be employed, until further orders, as Officiating Special Deputy Collector on Butwara work in Shahabad.

Confirmed in the second grade. Baboo Baroda Das Bose.

Promoted to the second grade. Baboo Nowrungi Lall, but will continue to be employed, until further orders, as Officiating Special Deputy Collector on Butwara work in Durbhunga.

Confirmed in the second grade. Baboo Chunder Kant Gangooly.

Promoted temporarily to the second grade. Baboos Radhica Lall Shome, *vice* Baboo Suchita Nund Mookerjee, Nogensdro Lall Mitter, *vice* Moulvie Mahomed Azhar, Moulvie Fuzlul Rahman, *vice* Baboo Ram Brahm Chatterjee, retired.

Confirmed in the third grade. Baboos Radhica Lall Shome, Nogensdro Lall Mitter, Moulvie Fuzlul Rahman, Baboo Okhoy Coomar Chowdry.

Promoted to the third grade. Baboo Beni Madhub Chatterjee, but will continue to be employed, until further orders, on his present deputation.

Confirmed in the third grade. Mr. S. N. Banerjee.

Promoted to the third grade. Baboo Poorno Chunder Bysack, but will continue to act, until further orders, as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Moulvie Mahomed Abdurrauf, but will continue to act, until further orders, as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Moulvie Wajid Hossein, on leave, but will continue to be employed, until further orders, as Officiating Special Deputy Collector on Butwara work in Mozufferpore.

Confirmed in the third grade. Baboo Gopi Krishna Lall, Moulvie Golam Lillahi, Baboos Mohendro Nath Seal, Bhoobun Mohun Soor.

Promoted to the third grade. Baboo Prosunno Coomar Bose, but will continue to be employed, until further orders, on his present deputation.

Promoted temporarily to the third grade. Baboos Jugdam Sahoy, *vice* Radhica Lall Shome, Sheo Sunker Singh, *vice* Moulvie Fuzlul Rahman.

Appointed to the fourth grade, but will continue to be employed, until further orders, in the third grade. Baboos Khudiram Poddar, Kali Coomar Roy Chowdhry, Ananta Lal Chatterjee, Moulvie Anwar Ahmed, Baboo Dino Nath Chuckerbutty, Moulvie Abdul Huq, Baboos Ananda Nundo Sen, Bonomali Pramanick, Nibarun Chunder Ghuttuck, Gossain Das Hazra, Shoshi Mohun Talookdar, Moulvie Mahomed Ghowsi, Baboo Hem Chunder Mookerjee, but will continue to be employed, until further orders, as Temporary Deputy Collector in charge of the Khas Tehsil Office at Contai, Midnapore, Moulvie Husmut Hossein, but will continue to be employed, until further orders, in the third grade.

The following promotions and confirmations are made in the Subordinate Executive Service :—

Confirmed in the fourth grade. Mr. H. B. Beames, on deputation, *vice* Moulvie Mofizuddin, retired.

Promoted temporarily to the fourth grade. Baboos Luchminarain, on deputation, *vice* Mr. H. B. Beames, Mohendro Nath Gupta, *vice* Luchminarain, on deputation.

Confirmed in the fifth grade. Baboos Komulnath Ghose, *vice* Baboo Ashootosh Gupta, deceased, Bissessur Banerjee, *vice* Mr. H. B. Beames.

Promoted temporarily to the fifth grade. Baboos Hurish Chunder Banerjee, on deputation, *vice* Baboo Komulnath Ghose, Abinash Chunder Mullick, *vice* Baboo Hurish Chunder Banerjee, on deputation, Narendro Nath Chowdry, *vice* Baboo Bissessur Banerjee.

Confirmed in the sixth grade. Baboos Chunder Bhoosun Chuckerbutty, *vice* Baboo Komulnath Ghose, Shamadhub Roy, *vice* Baboo Bissessur Banerjee.

Promoted temporarily to the sixth grade. Mr. J. S. Davidson, *vice* Baboo Abinash Chunder Mullick, Baboos Ashootosh Sircar, on deputation, *vice* Baboo Narendro Nath Chowdry, Nundjee, *vice* Baboo Ashootosh Sircar, on deputation.

Confirmed in the seventh grade. Baboos Ashootosh Sircar, *vice* Baboo Girendro Nath Mitter, deceased, Nundjee, *vice* Baboo Chunder Bhoosun Chuckerbutty, Upender Chunder Mookerjee, *vice* Baboo Shamadhub Roy.

Appointed temporarily to the seventh grade. Kumar Ramendra Krishna, Baboos Toolsi Das Mookerjee, Krishnakali Mookerjee, Basanta Krishna Bose, Kunja Behary Chatterjee, Priya Nath Mookerjee, Saroda Prosad Sircar, Bangshi Dhar Banerjee.

Mr. G. W. Place, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Lohardugga, is appointed to act temporarily as Judicial Commissioner of Chota Nagpore till relieved by Mr. F. W. R. Cowley.

Baboo Baroda Churn Mitter, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Pubna, is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector.

Baboo Gogan Chunder Banerjee, Sub-Deputy Collector, Palamow, Lohardugga, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 25th June 1887, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

\* Munshi Rameshwara Pershad is appointed to act as Sub-Deputy Collector of Palamow, Lohardugga, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Gogan Chunder Banerjee, or until further orders.

Baboo Kali Prosonno Chowdry, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakhally, is allowed leave for one month, under rule II, section 138 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. C. T. Metcalfe, c.s.i., Commissioner of Orissa and Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals, Cuttack, is allowed leave for three months, under section 74 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 13th August next.

Mr. C. F. Worsley is appointed to act as Commissioner of the Orissa Division and Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals, Cuttack, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. C. T. Metcalfe, c.s.i., or until further orders, on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Commissioner of Dacca.

Baboo Nowrungi Lall, Officiating Special Deputy Collector on Butwara work in Durbhunga, is appointed to act as a Special Deputy Collector for employment on Butwara work, in the district of Shahabad, during the absence, on deputation, of Moulvie Nasiruddin, or until further orders.

Baboo Sree Nath Chatterjee, Officiating Special Deputy Collector on Butwara work in Shahabad, is appointed to act, until further orders, as a Special Deputy Collector for employment on Butwara work, in the district of Durbhunga.

JUDICIAL.—The 1st July 1887.—Baboo Nuffer Chunder Bhutto, Subordinate Judge, Nuddea, is appointed to be Subordinate Judge and Small Cause Court Judge of Backergunge, *vice* Baboo Mothoora Nath Gupta about to retire.

Baboo Gonesh Chunder Chowdry, First Subordinate Judge and Small Cause Court Judge, Midnapore, on leave, is appointed to be Subordinate Judge of Nuddea.

The 5th July 1887.—Baboo Sham Chand Dhur, Additional Subordinate Judge, Bhagulpore, is appointed temporarily to act as Subordinate Judge and Small Cause Court Judge, Mohghyr, till relieved by Baboo Purna Chunder Shome.

\* Baboo Purna Chunder Shome, Munsif of Kaligunge, Dacca, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge and Small Cause Court Judge of Monghyr, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Opendra Chunder Mullick, or until further orders.

Baboo Hemango Chunder Bose, Additional Munsif of Dacca, is appointed to act as Additional Subordinate Judge of Chittagong, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Krishna Mohun Mookerjee, or until further orders.

Baboo Paresh Nath Chatterjee, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Jessore, to be ordinarily stationed at Bagirhat, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Saroda Prosad Chatterjee, or until further orders.

The undermentioned officers are vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure :—

Baboo Kali Puddu Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore.

Baboo Pran Kissen Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore.

GRANT OF LEAVE TO MUNSIFS.—The 22nd June 1887.—Baboo Tara Charan Sen, Second Munsif of Chandpore, in the district of Tipperah, is allowed leave for one month, viz., 14 days under section 73, rule 3, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, and the remaining 16 days under section 73, rule 1 of the same Code, with effect from the 19th proximo, or from the date on which he may be relieved.

The 28th June 1887.—Baboo Nanda Lal Kundu, First Munsif of Chandpore, in the district of Tipperah, is allowed leave for 23 days, under section 73, rule 1, chapter V of Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 29th April 1887.

Baboo Saroda Prosad Chatterji, Second Munsif of Bagirhat, in the district of Jessore, is allowed leave for one month, viz., 12 days under section 73, rule 3, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, and the remaining 18 days under section 73, rule 1 of the same Code, with effect from the 10th proximo, or from the date on which he may be relieved.

The 1st July 1887.—Baboo Prosunno Coomar Ghose, Additional Munsif of Mymensingh, is allowed leave for 15 days, under section 73, rule 1, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 16th April 1887.

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No. 282

## THE JUBILEE, 1887.

BY ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE.

[Concluded from p. 326.]

### XXVI.

The forces of the dark dissolve,  
The doorways of the dark are broken ;  
The word that casts out night is spoken,  
And whence the springs of things evolve  
Light born of night bears token.

### XXVII.

She, loving light for light's sake only,  
And truth for only truth's, and song  
For song's sake and the sea's, how long  
Hath she not borne the world her lonely  
Witness of right and wrong ?

### XXVIII.

From light to light her eyes imperfal  
Turn, and require the further light,  
More perfect than the sun's in sight,  
Till star and sun seem all funereal  
Lamps of the vaulted night.

### XXIX.

'She gazes till the strenuous soul  
Within the rapture of her eyes  
Creates or bids awake, arise,  
The light she looks for, pure and whole  
And worshipped of the wise.

### XXX.

Such sons are hers, such radiant hands  
Have borne abroad her lamp of old,  
Such mouths of honey-dropping gold  
Have sent across all seas and lands  
Her fame as music rolled.

### XXXI.

As music made of rolling thunder  
That hurls through heaven its heart sublime,  
Its heart of joy, in charging chime,  
So ring the songs that round and under  
Her temple surge and climb.

### XXXII.

A temple not by men's hands builded,  
But moulded of the spirit, and wrought  
Of passion and imperious thought ;  
With light beyond all sunlight gilded,  
Whereby the sun seems nought.

### XXXIII.

Thy shrine, our mother, seen for fairer  
Than even thy natural face, made fair  
With kisses of thine April air  
Even now, when spring thy banner-bearer  
Took up thy sign to bear.

### XXXIV.

Thine annual sign from heaven's own arch  
Given of the sun's hand into thine,  
To rear and cheer each wildwood shrine  
But now laid waste by wild-winged March,  
March, mad with wind like wine.

### XXXV.

From all thy brightening downs whereon  
The windy seaward whinflower shows  
Blossom whose pride strikes pale the rose  
Forth is the golden watchword gone  
Whereat the world's face glows.

### XXXVI.

Thy quickening woods rejoice and ring  
Till earth seems glorious as the sea :  
With yearning love too glad for glee  
The world's heart quivers toward the spring  
As all our hearts toward thee.

### XXXVII.

Thee, mother, thee, our queen, who givest  
Assurance to the heavens most high  
And earth whereon her bondsmen sigh  
That by the sea's grace while thou livest  
Hope shall not wholly die.

### XXXVIII.

That while thy free folk hold the van  
Of all men, and the sea-spray shed  
As dew more heavenly on thy head  
Keeps bright thy face in sight of man,  
Man's pride shall drop not dead.

### XXXIX.

A pride more pure than humblest prayer,  
More wise than wisdom born of doubt,  
Girds for thy sake men's hearts about  
With trust and triumph that despair  
And fear may cast not out.

### XL.

Despair may wring men's hearts, and fear  
Bow down their heads to kiss the dust,  
Where patriot memories rot and rust,  
And change makes faint a nation's cheer,  
And faith yields up her trust.

*Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.*

## XLI.

Not here this year have true men known,  
Not here this year may true men know,  
That brand of shame-compelling woe  
Which bids but brave men shrink or groan  
And lays but honour low.

## XLII.

The strong spring wind blows notes of praise,  
And hallowing pride of heart, and cheer  
Unchanging, toward all true men here  
Who hold the trust of ancient days  
High as of old this year.

## XLIII.

The days that made thee great are dead ;  
The days that now must keep thee great  
Lie not in keeping of thy fate ;  
In thine they lie, whose heart and head  
Sustain thy charge of state.

## XLIV.

No state so proud, no pride so just,  
The sun, through clouds at sunrise curled  
Or clouds across the sunset whirled,  
Hath sight of, nor has man such trust  
As thine in all the world.

## XLV.

Each hour that sees the sunset's crest  
Make bright thy shores ere day decline  
Sees dawn the sun on shores of thine,  
Sees west as east and east as west  
On thee their sovereign shine.

## XLVI.

The sea's own heart must needs wax proud  
To have borne the world a child like thee.  
What birth of earth might ever be  
Thy sister? Time, a wandering cloud,  
Is sunshine on thy sea.

## XLVII.

Change mars not her ; and thee, our mother.  
What change that irks or moves thee mars ?  
What shock that shakes ? what chance that jars ?  
Time gave thee, as he gave none other,  
A station like a star's.

## XLVIII.

The storm that shrieks, the wind that wages  
War with the wings of hopes that climb  
Too high toward heaven in doubt sublune,  
Assail not thee, approved of ages  
The towering crown of time.

## XLIX.

Toward thee this year thy children turning  
With souls uplift of changeless cheer  
Salute with love that casts out fear,  
With hearts for beacons round thee burning,  
The token of this year.

## \*L.

With just and sacred jubilation  
Let earth sound answer to the sea  
For witness, blown on winds as free,  
How England, how her crowning nation,  
Acclaims this jubilee.

## The Week.

AFTER all Sir ASHLEY EDEN succumbed to his paralytic attack. The Bengal Secretariat was closed on Wednesday to his memory.

JUSTICE has triumphed. Sir JOHN POPE HENNESSY has been reinstated as Governor of Mauritius, Mr. CLIFFORD LLOYD being provided elsewhere. The latter is lucky in his friends. Sir JOHN has only got his due.

IN Hyderabad, they are undoing the deeds of the Boy Minister. The *Deccan Times* says that "an important contract entered into by the ex-Minister for the local manufacture of arms, such as muskets, pistols, swords, &c., by which the Government was committed to a monthly expenditure of Rs. 5,000 for a term of years, has been put an end to on the ground that the contract had never received His Highness' sanction." But this five thousand a month is a mere fleabite. When will attention be drawn to the colossal jobs and wholesale diversions?

THE *Bengal Times* has found a new grievance out of the visit of the Indian notabilities to England. The following paragraph occurs in its editorial columns:—

"Royal Eccentricity. Our Most Gracious Sovereign Lady, Victoria, has been known to display singular instances of her Royal favour. On terminating her reception of the Maharani of Kuch Behar, Her Majesty is said to have kissed her on both cheeks—a strange mark of Royal condescension indeed."

HER MAJESTY has graciously augmented the funds of the Imperial Institute by £1,000.

JUST now the prospects of pilgrimages are far from promising, either in Hinduism or in Christianity. A telegram informs us that two hundred pilgrims out of three hundred in a ferry boat have been drowned in the Danube in a hurricane.

A NATIVE who purchased a piece of land for Rs. 1,000, has priced it at Rs. 9,50,000 when required for public purposes. The negotiation may close at Rs. 1,00,000. This is in Jhansi. There is no Land Acquisition Act in Jhansi, of course.

THERE has been an extraordinary hail storm in Roumelia. Early last month such a storm passed over the districts of Aitos and Carnabat—the stones were more than a pound in weight, of irregular and rough surface, presenting sharp frozen points. Several persons and many cattle were killed, and the harvest destroyed.

NEW GUINEA claims the highest mountain. The height of Mount Hercules is now reported to be 32,786 feet.

SIR AUCKLAND COLVIN goes home early next month, preparatory to taking up the rule of the N. W. P. and Oudh in November next. Mr. WESTLAND probably acts as Finance Minister.

FOR their services with the Boundary Commission, Khan Bahadur IBRAHIM KHAN and Mirza GHULAM AHMAD will be substantially rewarded for life with grants of land yielding Rs. 800 a year.

CHOLERA numbered 31,328 victims in the N. W. Provinces and Oudh in May last, whereas in the corresponding month of the previous year, the number was only 1,016.

THE Rajputana Railway has been breached by the rains near Ajmir.

THEY have issued a loan of 238 million marks in Germany for the construction of the Baltic Canal and completion of military railways and for the administration of the Army and Navy.

THE Bombay Girgaum Police Court has sentenced a fireman, G. I. P. Railway, EUSTACE BROWN, to three months' labor for criminal trespass, in that about mid-night he strayed into the bedroom of Mrs. LAURA MARY COOKMAN, wife of JOHN COOKMAN, a driver in the same Railway, while she was asleep alone, her husband being away on duty, and stood by her bedside and looked on. The case was heard by Mr. RYAN

in chambers. Awaking, Mrs. COOKMAN, believing the trespasser to be her husband, called out to him by the dear name. There was no response and on her screaming for help a servant from the verandah came and laid hold of him. BROWN however snatched himself out of the hold and secreted himself in an adjoining room. The defence was an *alibi*. The witnesses however contradicted each other, and Mr. RYAN convicted the accused.

NEWS from Turkestan report terrible earthquakes. The town of Vernoe and the settlement of Kaskelensk, twenty versts west of Vernoe, on the Tashkend-Kuldja road, have been destroyed. The victims are given at many hundreds.

AT the sale of Lord Crawford's library, Mr. QUARITCH purchased the Mazarin or Gutenberg Bible for £2,650.

A TELEGRAM from Stockholm dated June 11, says that "the town of Lulea has been burning since last night. The church, the Town Hall, the dispensary, and many streets are burnt down, and with the strong wind the danger still continues. Lulea is the chief town of the district of North Bothnia, is engaged principally in the timber trade and contains 3,000 inhabitants."

THE Vienna professors, among others, HERREN FRISCH and BILLORTII, have pronounced against M. PASTEUR'S system. Professor FRISCH had been to Paris on purpose to learn it and, on his return home, tried it on animals—with very poor results. In some cases, the vaccination caused the death of the subject from hydrophobia.

NOTWITHSTANDING the innumerable channels of communication now-a-days, very little is known in the outside world of the inner life of Russia. The value of precise knowledge of matters touching the weal or woe of the largest empire in the world, inhabited by millions of our race, need not be insisted upon. To us of India, every scrap of true information about our daily nearing European foe, has a peculiar importance. We, therefore, without hesitation, reproduce the following valuable observation confidentially obtained from a friend at Kieff by the Vienna correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* :—

"In every class of the population (says my friend) are to be found symptoms of a deeply-rooted and increasing discontent. From this even the army is not free, seeing that the continued preference given to the regiments of Guards above the other troops is a source of unceasing complaint. Moreover, the vexatious system of supervision by the commandant of the regiment over his officers, and of the officers over each other, tends more and more to loosen the spirit of fellowship and open the door to suspicion. It has even gone so far that the commandant is held responsible for the private relations—nay, even for the correspondence—of his officers. Recently a ukase from St. Petersburg is said to have been issued to the military commandants to the effect that letters to the soldiers were not to be delivered until the contents had been examined. Landed property is under a ban, the great landowners are oppressed by Government officials on one side and threatened by the peasantry on the other. In disputes of the landlords with the peasants the central authority, from fear of agrarian riots, generally sides with the peasantry. Besides this, the value of land is driven down to the point of ruin by the inhibition against letting it to Poles or Jews, who, in the south-west of Russia, were the best and most enlightened farmers. The demoralization of the authorities is ever more and more on the increase. It is a well-known fact that the chiefs of circuits and superintendents of districts derive fixed annual contributions from the manufacturers, merchants, and landowners of their jurisdiction. It is not attempted to keep the system a secret; the joint-stock sugar factories place such outlays openly in their account, under the heading of honoraria. Even police functionaries do not scruple to accept largess. Respectable officials are forced to be speculators of practices which they may detest but are unable to prevent. In religion, sectarianism, especially the sect of the Sundists, is making enormous progress; while the influence of the Orthodox priests on the peasant population is steadily decreasing. Meanwhile this peasant population, fleeced by the organs of Government, goaded by the Pan-slavists, courted by the Nihilists, and altogether in a condition of economic deterioration, presents a distressing spectacle, and affords every reason for apprehending the very worst at no distant epoch. Everywhere disorganization and decay; everywhere the same evils which possibly could only be checked by peaceful policy abroad and by energetic reforms at home. Of such incisive reforms there are no indications observable. Half-measures are taken, which only aggravate the mischief and detract yet more from the respect due to authority."

So there is not only something but a great deal rotten in the empire of the Czar. Everything is going to rack and ruin. The whole society is diseased to the core. We are no longer surprised at the phenomenon of Nihilism. In fact, we expect Revolution.

THE European clerk THOMAS THOMAS, Paper Currency Office, Bombay, has been sentenced by Mr. Justice JARDINE to two years' rigorous

imprisonment each on three separate charges, or a total of six years. The Jury had recommended him to mercy and the Judge acceding to it, passed the light sentence reminding the prisoner that he had rendered himself liable to transportation for life or ten years' labor. The Advocate-General also spared him further indignity by not proceeding with the charge of forgery. The Jury at request returned a formal verdict of acquittal.

THE Southern papers report the death, at the Madras hospital, on the 9th ultimo, in his sixty-fifth year, of the Rev. P. RAJA GOPAUL, missionary of the Free Church of Scotland. At one time, many, many years ago, the deceased attracted a good deal of public notice. He was one of the earliest converts of a well-known missionary, the late Rev. JOHN ANDERSON. Baptised in June 1841, he was ordained in 1843, and after six years' work in the mission field, went, in 1849, to Great Britain, where he was privileged to preach before the Queen in Scotland. Thirty-three years after, he again visited Europe in 1882, this time in the cause of Female Education. He persuaded the good people of England and Scotland to give liberally towards the establishment of schools for caste boys and ragged female schools for the masses. He was held in high respect in Christian Society of all races in the South. He was frequently associated with its members on religious and educational committees. He was Moderator of the Presbytery and member of the Council of the Christian College.

THE Lieutenant-Governor starts on his tour on the 20th. The official programme is as follows :—

Wednesday, July 20th	{ Barrackpore to Hughli	By rail.
Thursday "	{ Hughli to Burdwan	"
" 21st	Halt.	"
Friday "	22nd...Return to Hughli	{ By rail; sleep on the Rhoas.
Saturday "	23rd...Towards Krishnaghar	By river.
Sunday "	24th...Arrive Krishnaghar, midday.	"
Monday "	25th...Halt.	"
Tuesday "	26th...Towards Berhampore	By river.
Wednesday "	27th...Arrive Berhampore about 11 A.M.	"
Thursday "	28th...Halt.	"
Friday "	29th { Moorshedabad, and proceed up	"
Saturday "	30th { stream towards Jungipore and	"
Sunday "	31st { the Mohanuddi	By river.
Monday, August 1st	Arrive Malda.	"
Tuesday "	2nd...Halt.	"
Wednesday "	3rd...Manihari Ghât	By river.
Thursday "	4th...To Purneah	By rail.
Friday "	5th...To Manihari Ghât	By rail.
Saturday "	6th...Towards Bhagulpore	By river.
Sunday "	7th...Arrive Bhagulpore.	"
Monday "	8th...Halt.	"
Tuesday "	9th...Towards Monghyr	By river.
Wednesday "	10th...Arrive Monghyr.	"
Thursday "	11th...Halt.	"
Friday "	12th...Towards Mokameh...	By river.
Saturday "	13th { Arrive Mokameh.	"
Sunday "	14th { To Durbhungah	By special train.
Monday "	15th...Do.	"
Tuesday "	16th...Mozufferpore	By rail.
Wednesday "	17th...Halt.	"
Thursday "	18th...Motihari...	By rail.
Friday "	19th...Bettiah	By rail.
Saturday "	20th...Halt.	"
Sunday "	21st...Hutwah	By road.
Monday "	22nd...Halt.	"
Tuesday "	23rd...Via Sewan to Chapra	Road and rail.
Wednesday "	24th...Halt.	"
Thursday "	25th...Patna.	"
Friday "	26th { Halt.	"
Saturday "	27th {	"

The Lieutenant-Governor proposes also to visit Sasseram, Buxar, Arrah, Gya, and Rampore Beaulah, but details regarding this portion of the Tour are not yet complete.

THE inhabitants of North Alinagar, Bagarkhal, Samnagar, Rishra, Mahesh and Morepakur have for the third time memorialized the Agent, East Indian Railway, for a station at Rishra, between Kohnagar and Serampore. The first memorial is dated 26th April 1871 and the second 23rd December 1876. On both the occasions the Agent was not prepared to recommend the prayer, because the existing stations are close enough, being only  $3\frac{1}{4}$  mile distant. The applicants now argue that that objection cannot now avail, because since 1876, a station has been opened at Seoraphuli only a mile from Bidyabati and another at Trishbigha two miles from Magra.



Another argument in their favor has been supplied by the opening of the Jubilee Bridge at Hooghly, and the memorialists urge that the

"Proprietors of the two Jute Mills—Hastings and Wellington—would take advantage of this facility of communication in getting jute direct from Serajgunge and other jute-producing districts in Eastern Bengal; and that they would also transmit their finished goods direct to Calcutta for shipment instead of by cargo boats as heretofore; and that, moreover, the coal that is required for daily consumption in the Mills would be brought in direct from Raneegeunge and other places."

The circumstances are now different from those of 1871 and 1876, and the Agent will perhaps now see his way to satisfy the demand by opening an experimental station, the cost of which cannot be much. We do not see how in reason the administration can be deaf to the demand. The public convenience of a new station goes without saying. The advantage of the company is sure. For although Rishra will divert a part of the passenger traffic of Konnagar and Serampore, it will be sure to create a traffic of its own of all kinds, besides drawing to itself that of the river.

THE *Mahratta* records the state visit to Poona of Dewan Bahadur LUXUMAN RAO JAGANNATH, Minister of Baroda, accompanied by his Deputy, Naib Dewan MANIBHAI JAYBHAI, on the 20th June. He was received at the Railway station, on the part of the Political Agent for the Deccan, by his Native Assistant in the absence of the Assistant Judge. Mr. Commissioner J. G. MOORE of Customs, &c., attended as a personal friend, and he was the only European. But there was a large native gathering—chiefly Hindus, Mahomedans and Parsees—to do the visitor honor—who offered to him flowers and betel leaf and nut. On the following day, His Excellency the Governor invited His Excellency the Minister to a party at Government House, and the next day admitted him to an hour's private audience. On Thursday the Dewans paid a ceremonial visit to the Agent for the Sirdars. On Friday Mr. Collector LEE WARNER invited them to an evening party. They came on some business of state in the Excise department.

The existence of numerous Native States and chiefs and other persons of political importance, gives variety and colour to life in Western India, while such customs as that of *Pansupari* lends it a touch of the archaic. We honor our countrymen of that side for not being ashamed of their own manners.

WE learn from the *Eastern Herald* of Mhow that the Durbar annually held every year at the Indore Residency on the Queen's birth-day, was, in the absence of the Maharaja and the Resident, poor and tame. No Native Chiefs attended, but gentlemen and vakils of different states residing at Indore were present. Dewan RAGHUNATH ROW with five principal sirdars and officials represented the Holkar.

THE Naib Dewan of Indore who had accompanied the Holkar as far as Egypt, has returned from Port Said. SURNOWBUT KHUMAN SINGH, C.S.I., and other friends and brother officers received him at the railway station, some over-zealous friends and fawning speculators going so far as Bombay to welcome the powerful minister. These latter of course know what they are about. As the Right Reverend RAGHUNATH ROW has espoused for better for worse the Saints and the Reformers and has not declined the Holkari Rupees, in view of the opportunity for working out the social changes which he has been advocating for the last few years, the Deputy seems destined to be the Dewan *de facto*.

### Editorial Notes.

OUR loyal demonstration in the middle of February last passed off, as befitted a prefatory and provincial business, with only a scratch—the fall of a man from a tree during the morning review. The London Jubilee has killed its man, and was imperial and British for its catalogue of mishaps and miseries. The accidents are given at over four hundred, besides many others not returned owing to press of cases at one time. These included seventeen cases of sunstroke, nine fits, one fracture of the base of the skull, one fracture of the front bone of the chest from the kick of a horse (this man died), one fractured collar-bone, which happened to one of the police bearers, two cases of hysteria, ten horsekicks and minor wounds, and the rest fainting fits.

THE first anniversary of the late Holkar's *shradh* took place on the 27th May, when some Rs. 40,000 worth of horses, shawls and other articles were given away to Brahmins. There was a dinner, too—but confined to "the Maharaja's caste people." What is meant by that expression? Does it include all Mahrattas—non-Brahmanic—or does it refer to the particular section, by no means high, to which the Holkars belong? Are the rest always left in the lurch? And are the poor never thought of?

The dinner party is spoken of as a "grand" one, and the guests are said to have "returned fully satisfied with the rich and sumptuous dinner." In the absence of the *menu* we are unable to speculate on the subject. To our outside barbarian imagination, a Mahratta royal banquet seems to be a rather trying business of chillies all.

ON the 8th June the Royal Society gave a scientific Soirée. It was the Soirée of the—Stockings, of all the different colors, and drew a very large and distinguished company. The President Professor STOKES, the treasurer Mr. EVANS, and the hon. Secretaries, Professor M. FOSTER and Lord RAYLEIGH, received ministers, ambassadors high ecclesiastics, poets, peers, generals and their ladies and the Fellows engaged in the pursuit of "natural knowledge." The attractions were characteristic—though of a rather doubtful, indeed dismal kind. They included Dr. KLEIN's comma bacillus of cholera controversy, his scarlatina germ from the Hendon cows and the organisms he found in the milk submitted to his analysis in the recent London outbreak, while Dr. PERCY FRANKLAND exhibited some hideous new micro-organisms obtained from water. Altogether, they were offered a splendid opportunity for supping full of horrors, of which they made the most. One is involuntarily reminded of Gilray's Dance of Death and such other scenes. Doubtless, death's heads and bones and dead bodies of different animals in all states, from decomposition to fossilization, were provided by the sympathetic solicitude of the attending doctors of medicine and other sciences and the demonstrators of anatomy and pathology and paleontology. These, however, were, so to speak, the *picées de résistance* in this formidable feast. There were *entrées* and lighter courses besides. Thus, we are told—

"The electric eel ran the microscopic exhibition hard. He is a fiery-looking fish, in those parts of him where he is not black and gloomy. Shocks from this singular denizen of the deep were offered to enterprising guests at fixed hours of the evening's entertainment. Mr. Streeter's pearls were exhibited, but no information volunteered on the question of the ruby mines, respecting which Mr. Bradlaugh's curiosity is so completely baffled. The same gentleman's great yellow diamond from South Africa, weighing 10 carats heavier than the Koh-i-Noor, was entrusted to Mr. W. Crookes for its illustrative bearing on his most wonderful exhibition of the phosphorescence of minerals. The old scientific experiments with the induction coil and electric spark have now been far outstripped by Mr. Crookes's plan of irradiating precious stones, minerals, and rare earths in radiant matter tubes. Mr. Crookes did not undertake the responsibility of playing with his powerful electric spark upon a property so valuable as the great yellow diamond, but in his highly exhausted tubes the most lovely phosphorescent effects were produced by the electric illumination of rubies, cut and uncut, small diamonds, topaz, sapphire, phenakite, calcide, and so forth. The brilliant illuminations in many cases left a curious residual phosphorescence after the electric spark was withdrawn—an afterglow that was the subject of deep interest. Mr. Warren de la Rue and Dr. Hugo Muller also provided some beautiful phosphorescent effects by the illumination of prepared discs and minerals under the electric discharge in vacuum tubes. Professor Norman Lockyer exhibited the results obtained in his own special department of spectrum analysis, but was more enthusiastic still when chivalrously explaining the work of others. He is loud in the praises of the accomplishments of the Harvard College Observatory since the endowment of research there by Mrs. Draper in memory of her husband. The Draper Memorial photographs, showing Mr. Lockyer says, as much investigation into the revelations of starlight as it was possible 17 years ago for himself to make into that of a body like the Sun, were lovingly explained by the enthusiastic professor. Mr. E. B. Poulton's interesting experiments proving the influence of surroundings on the colours of chrysalides attracted general interest. The scientists interested in obtaining torsion viewed for instruments of precision were not the only persons who viewed with pleasure the neat and simple process by which Mr. C. V. Boys shot threads of glass, emerald, and quartz that were finer than spider lines. Mr. Crossley, M.P., showed his new measuring rod. The apparently successful application by Mr. Walter Winans of the electric light to the front sight of a rifle so as to facilitate the aim at deer and other game in early morning or evening was shown. Professor Rucker contributed interesting new optical experiments. The exhibits with limelight demonstrations included the Hon. Ralph Abercromby's views of clouds to illustrate the identity of cloud forms all over the world, Sir J. Fowler's and Mr. Baker's views of the Forth Bridge, and Dr. G. Harley's explanations of the microscopic structure of pearls."

By way of completing the caricature of enjoyment, there was the accompaniment of music. Music in this connection could only have

the same effect that it always had on Jessica. To begin with, a cornet solo in Brighton was heard through the telephone in the principal library! Then, the comic opera from the Savoy was specially laid on to the Archives Room by the United Telephone Company by the permission of Mr. d'Oily Carte! It must have been a dismally comic business, notwithstanding.

The reporters were naturally quite at sea on such a unique scene. Are they to be trusted? when they say "the ladies were specially interested in the new plants from Kew." We know what the dear ones would be "specially interested in." A few lassies of the brush might stare at the views of the Forth Bridge or even at those of clouds, but ladies are ladies after all, and more we fancy would be better interested in any nonsense about pearls. Above all, all ladies, those of the broomstick, if any, as well as those with the gilded fan and the perfumed handkerchief, must have crowded round Mr. STREETER'S gems, and particularly envied Mr. CROOKES' privilege of the momentary hold over the same jeweller's Greater Kohinoor.

DR. MACLEAN, who during Sir M. GRANT DUFF'S unhappy rule fiddled away his District of Salem into disorder and anarchy, has again managed to emerge from the obscurity to which he had been consigned. We wonder what sort of music he cultivates. He has driven to shame all the eulogists of the divine art, including SHAKESPEARE and CONGREVE.

The man that hath no music in himself,  
Nor is not mov'd with concord of sweet sounds,  
Is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spoils.

Granted. But the man that *hath* music in him is not necessarily proof against evil. We would fain believe

Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast,  
To soften rocks, or bend a knotted oak.

but how could we do so in the face of Mr. MACLEAN, of the Madras Civil Service, Doctor of Music? Music does not seem to have any chastening, subduing elevating influence. He is apparently one of the anomalies in Nature—made up of a perversity that baffles all sciences and arts—on which all experience, all the gentle influences provided by a Gracious Deity,—are lost—even

Soft Lydian airs,  
Married to immortal verse,  
Such as the meeting soul my pierce  
In notes with many a winding bout  
Of linked sweetness long drawn out.

Is Mr. MACLEAN a Doctor of Oriental Music? He has been showing the worst Oriental proclivities. He seems to have cultivated the same music which in the far East turned the strong head of PHILIP'S warlike son—with much the same effect. Indeed, what wonder that the little Briton should succumb where the great Greek was felled? We seem to see—

With ravish'd ears  
The Saheb hears,  
Assumes the god,  
Affects to nod,

And seems to shake the spheres!

Verily, Mr. MACLEAN is playing the British Nabob—of the Brummagem type. No one is good enough to sit in the Collectorial Presence. Even respectable Europeans are made to stand before the Grand Pandjandram—the natives, of course, are not worthy to clean his shoes. To his departmental officers he condescends not to write—except orders. He has, to be sure, all a Nabob's love of show. If pomp is hard to procure, he insists on parade. He moves about in his District followed by a multitudinous rabble. All the people must be out to receive him in his progress. He completes the character by a Nobobic weakness for the fair sex. For a Nabob is nothing without his Bayaderees. Lest we be thought to draw on our imagination for this picture of the Collector of Nellore, we quote the following passage from the Madras Correspondent of the *Indian Mirror* :—

"He is fond of vulgar parade whenever he goes in circuit. Poor *Teshildars* have to collect all dancing girls within their respective jurisdictions, and file them before him. With peons and constables before and behind him, music and dancing girls preceding him, subordinates making low obeisance to him, and vulgar crowds staring at him, he makes his entry into the Taluk Stations. The people who have business with him, find it hard to see him beyond a certain limited time, for he shuts his gates, and lives like a *gosha*, spending all his time in compiling a manual of Revenue administration. And a correspondent of the *Standard* says that there is anarchy in the District."

A FINE story of Nemesis, too good to be true but which it were pity to burk, reaches us from a district in Northern Bengal. A young landholder honored by Government with a Rajaship and of distinct Brahmic tendencies in religion, if, indeed, the avoidance of positive forms of expression in conversation, copious tears during Sunday preachments, and a partiality for the chorus of bovine voices repeating, by rote the fifth-rate songs of bards unknown to fame, be unmistakable indications of that ever-shifting faith, is the hero. He had cherished a fancy for the beautiful wife of his native doctor dwelling not far from the *Mandir* whose floor is often washed by the tears of repentance shed by this pervert from the creed of his adoptive ancestor. Sunday being ever a holy day with the Bramho brotherhood, a Saturday was selected for making an attempt on the poor girl's virtue. His wife being the head of the local female society, as he is of the other sex, a *palki* was sent to the doctor's for fetching away the youthful lady of the house in the name of the *kartri*. Not suspecting the trap, she entered the *palki* with her husband's permission. The bearers, having been in the plot, carried her not to the *kartri* but the *kartri* himself. Too late the poor girl understood all. Unlike, however, other ladies in her situation, she displayed remarkable presence of mind and succeeded in saving her virtue. When accosted by the villain, she pretended to fall in with his views, declaring that hers was no ordinary good fortune in having become the object of his august attentions. Having effectually bamboozled him so far, she craved, alleging her illness as the reason, a respite for three days. On the fourth day thence, she would willingly do his bidding, only the amour should be kept a secret from the husband. She then returned in the same *palki* after about the expiration of an hour and disclosed everything to her husband. Next morning at a very early hour the latter removed her to a neighbouring district, not telling his most intimate friends what he had done or why he had done it. Quietly going about his avocations as usual, he waited for three days. On the afternoon of the fourth day he gave himself a shave and by the evening attired himself in the female *Saree* and the usual female trinkets for the feet and the hands. The inevitable *palki* came and he entered it quietly in a frame of mind that may easily be conceived. When taken to the hall of assignation he chose a somewhat less-lighted corner, in apparent bashfulness. Meanwhile the gay Lothario, who had been paying his addresses to Bacchus and impatiently awaiting the return of the bearers, was roused from his reverie by the soft tinkle of the silver anklets, stood up to receive the lady who as he fancied had proved so faithful to her promise. He advanced towards her and complimented himself on being the luckiest of mortals in consequence of the honor of that visit. "Three days, my dear, three whole days and nights, have been to me as three *yugas*! But I would wait thrice three *yugas* for the happiness of this hour!" Desirous of a kiss he sought to open the veil, but he was anticipated in this by the husband, now assured more than ever of the unsuccessfulness of the villain's attempt on his wife's virtue. Clasp ing his neck the professor of the healing art inflicted two severe bites on the fellow's cheeks making the teeth in both instances almost touch one another. Having received his due the scoundrel roared like a bull, but there was nobody near to attend to him save a little page who knew not what was what. Inflicting a few parting blows and kicks and doing severe damage to the fellow's nose and eyes, the husband came away in the same *palki*, while as the result of the treatment the villain received from the infuriate son of Æsculapius, he had to shut himself up in his room for more than a month, unable to give out what had taken place. To complete the drama, the Brahmo missionary who visited the station before the victim's bruises had all disappeared, preached an eloquent sermon on the impropriety and sinfulness of male persons disguising themselves as females even for the purpose of inflicting condign punishment where punishment is deserved. For, argued this apostle of brand new dispensation, the sexes are the work of God and they should never be made doubtful by the false aid of attire. An echo in form of the Catholic's, Whom God has joined let no man part.

*Holloway's Pills* are the medicine most in repute for curing the multiform maladies which beset mankind when dry, sultry weather suddenly gives place to chilly, drenching days. In fact, these Pills offer relief even if they fail of proving an absolute remedy in all the disturbances of digestion, circulation, and nervous tone which occasionally oppress a vast portion of the population. Under the genial, purifying, and strengthening powers exerted by this excellent medicine the tongue becomes clean, the appetite improves, digestion is quickened, and assimilation is rendered perfect. These Pills possess the highly estimable property of cleansing the entire mass of blood; which, in its renovated condition, carries purity, strength, and vigour to every tissue of the body.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1887.

### THE SIR JOHN LAWRENCE.

#### THE DISASTER AND THE INQUIRY.

THE *Sir John Lawrence* is truly a victim of Heaven—it and all its belongings and concerns. Those who last took passage in her will never return even for a formal final parting. Not all the surviving Hindu world's arts of propitiation of the gods will bring them back even for a moment.

Nor prayers, nor fasts, their plunge to death restrain,  
Nor tears for ages taught to flow in vain.

Even, the natural solicitude of the living host of friends and relations to know how and wherefore, humanly speaking, so many hundreds of respectable men and women were, all of a sudden,

Of life, dear ones and all, at once despatched ;  
Cut off in quest of penance of their sins ;  
No reckoning made, but sent to their account  
With all their imperfections on their heads ;  
O, horrible ! O, horrible ! most horrible !

is not more promising. The attitude of Government has been all that might be reasonably wished for. It has not stinted its sympathy for the mourners. Indeed it has been considerate beyond its traditions. In the absence of any survivor from among the officers, crew or passengers turning up, it might with plausibility have refused to move in the matter. But Government has been good enough to forsake its wonted groove. Uncontent to take shelter in stiff forms and dry intellectual generalities, it has for once elected to be humbly human, even to take pity on mortal weakness. We cannot sufficiently thank Sir STEUART BAYLEY for the promptness with which he has issued the commission. It is not much. It cannot recompense the mourners. It will not compel the sea to give up the bodies of the dead, still less can it galvanise the dead to life. Yet it is a boon not to be despised. 'Tis something in the dearth of more substantial solace, to learn, if possible, how our innocent relations, our mothers and sisters and daughters and wives, were, all in a body, in their way as pilgrims to the Pooree shrine, on board a well-known vessel of repute, swept away, in a common enough gale and crushed to destruction, themselves and their vessel, with commander and crew and all. Sir STEUART certainly is entitled to our best thanks. In the simple language of life which the instinct of the Poet has adopted as his own,

He has done well and like a gentleman.

And as a man, of course. And he has done it handsomely, too. He has not been summoned to duty by any formal application or overt demonstration. Had he waited till the inertia of Bengali society, now in particular prostrated by a cruel disaster, had been overcome, he might have waited long, much too long for any possible good in the end. In what he has done, he has, besides relying on his own natural instincts and his experience, responded to the voice of the press. That voice on this occasion was far from multitudinous or clamorous, yet he discerned its depth and recognised its representative character. This is an unmistakable index to character. It is to be hoped the press will not forget this disposition to justice in the ruler.

All to no purpose has Government done its part. All its generous intentions are in a fair (?) way of miscarrying from the indifferentism and stolidity of its

agents and underlings. Like every belonging of the *Sir John Lawrence*, the inquiry about it seems reserved for a miserable end. The ill-luck of the vessel pursues the court of enquiry upon it.

The Court of Inquiry opened on Monday and was continued the next day, at the close of which it adjourned to that day next week—the 19th. The proceedings of the opening day which we print elsewhere, from the *Englishman*, will explain our disappointment and, we fear, justify our worst forebodings. The constitution of the court, to begin with, is imperfect. It has been formed in the usual way, of course, with the Chief Presidency Magistrate for President and an experienced ship-surveyor and another gentleman, Superintendent of the P. & O. Company, for colleagues. We have come to acquire a sneaking liking for Mr. REILY since he came to the magisterial bench, though we must confess ourselves disappointed on the present business. We can have no objection to either of the other two. Captain SMIDT seems to have acquired a prescriptive right to sit on Marine Courts, and the Superintendent of the great historic Steam Navigation Company seems on the face of it just the man for the work. But perhaps he, if not they, is a trifle too interested in the system of management in vogue, and it is the system—not any particular men—that is on trial. Both are men likely to have acquired a certain set of ideas and opinions, partialities and prejudices. Experts are very good in their way, and indispensable on technical inquiries ; but experts cannot escape the influence of professional bias. They should be employed with caution, with a distinct understanding of the risks of such employment. Precautions should be adopted where possible to guard against their narrowness.

It is very distressing to have to suggest such considerations—to start suspicions possibly unfounded *in toto*—but the occasion is not one for the bandying of compliments. We must say that the two non-legal coadjutors of Mr. REILY, valuable as their experience is, and high as is their honor, are, roundly considered, of a piece, chips of the same block—say the same coral reef—nay, gems of the purest ray serene from the same mother-oysters—a trifle too much of the same element. It would have been more satisfactory to the general public, and specially to the Hindu community, if a native gentleman had taken the place of one of them. It is no use telling us that natives do not understand ships and shipping affairs. Native lawyers are paid to argue shipping cases and native magistrates and judges to determine shipping causes. Besides, natives are partners and directors in shipping and riverine and maritime carrying companies. If a man of professional experience were wanted, we could name a gentleman—a Baboo perhaps, but no hated Bengali—of exceptional knowledge in the line, of general experience and accomplishments, of perspicacity and vigour of understanding, and force of character. We refer to Baboo RAM KISSEN. He is unique in his fitness for such an inquiry, having long been a shipowner or managing agent, without at all depending on that business.

We cannot hope anything from the spirit which has been shown by either the officer entrusted by Government with pursuing the inquiry, or the Court. Mr. KILBY, the Deputy Legal Remembrancer, in charge of the case, might as well have been sent to the Bay—to watch after any chance vestiges of the lost steamer—he has shown himself so completely at sea. He is an object piteous to behold. He has

thrown himself entirely on the mercy of the Court. He has made no previous enquiries and has no information to offer. He has not cared to apply to the quarters where he might have got any. He could have avoided making the exhibition of helplessness that he made, had he followed the example of confidence in the press set by his own Government. It was lucky for him that Mr. NEWSTONE had volunteered himself, otherwise the whole inquiry would have been a farce in the first attempt. It was Mr. NEWSTONE who provided materials for a few hours' sitting. We wonder what Mr. KILBY would have done had this volunteer not been forthcoming.

But from the way in which the court has gone about the work, it is all the same whether there are or are not witnesses. In the first place, the President is all impatience, where patience is specially needed. Mr. REILY warned everybody concerned or contemplating to come forward, against verbosity or generality. He was resolved not to allow the inquiry to degenerate into a roving commission. Here is a precious young gentleman relieved of the thankless drudgery of devilling at the bar by a lucky lift to the bench of the city magistrates, to give himself such airs so soon in his new career! Why, what harm is it to you, Mr. REILY, or to Mr. KILBY either, if this commission were ever so long, or had to travel through half the civilised world for its fulfilment?

These servants of the state are not in sympathy with their Government. One might almost suspect the Government by appointing such agents to carry out its express behests to be enacting a little play of deception. The President is all precision and to the point—so as not to do it! And the Deputy Remembrancer scarcely cares to remind him of his duty and the object of his present appointment. The commission is comprehensive enough, to wit—the investigating of all the circumstances connected with the loss of the steam ship *Sir John Lawrence* in the Bay of Bengal on the 25th of May last. Literally understood, this covers every circumstance directly or indirectly bearing upon the loss of the vessel. But these small lawyers bring all their ingenuity to bear upon the language to frustrate a great public purpose. They have done everything to reduce the Government to an absurdity. For, surely, if no questions are to be asked or statements recorded except in respect of the *Sir John Lawrence*, nay, of the disaster to the *Sir John Lawrence* on her last voyage, then this Court is an imposition, for no such evidence exists or is possible, for nobody has survived the accident. The President's lawyer-like objections would have been pertinent to a criminal trial under English law, which is so liberal to the accused, but this is an extra-judicial inquiry, here are no citizens in peril for life or liberty, and here this ultra-lawyerism is a mere pedantry, and a mischievous one.

The attitude of the President and the Prosecutor throws the duty on the public. We hope the public will come forward in a dutiful and loyal spirit. The duty is peculiarly that of the native community which has suffered most and almost exclusively from the loss of the vessel. Where are our patriots and where are our young lions of the Bar? And is not our LAL MOHAN in our midst? To try to enter the illustrious chamber of British legislation is no doubt a noble ambition, peculiarly noble in an Indian subject of the crown. But it is not the *summum bonum*, nor the only worthy end of life. We trust before Tuesday, some of the surviving friends of the multi-

tudinous victims of the disaster will employ counsel to watch the inquiry and procure and offer such evidence as may be procurable under the circumstances.

For our part, we are able to present to the public the following extract from a private letter written on the 3rd June on board by a seaman going to sea.

I am glad to inform you of my safe arrival on board. I got here on the 30th and found the vessel all right. Two of our vessels are missing, one of them I think is lost with all hands, the other I don't give up just yet. The sights we saw on the 29th was dreadful—the bodies of men women and children, both European and native, floating about the Sandheads and the sharks tearing them to pieces! We were sailing through them for two hours. I think the Chandbally steamer and the Tug *Retriever* have been lost. Poor fellows!

We may here remark that no reports of the official search for the *Sir John Lawrence* have been published. This does not speak well of the Marine Department of the Secretariat.

### THE LAST OF THE JUBILEE IN BENGAL.

#### THE HONOURS DURBAR.

THE last of the Jubilee Durbars came off on Friday. The titles that were conferred on the Indian Jubilee Day were figuratively awarded on the occasion—that is announced by *Gazette* on that day. There was no actual delivery of token or execution of document. That business for the Indian titles was enacted for Bengal by the Lieutenant-Governor himself on the 15th instant. Not much attempt was made to gloss over the too glaring fact that it was almost an act of supererogation. Indications were even visible that it was somewhat of a "bore." Of dignity there was little in it: its very grace was graceless. And yet there is scarcely anybody to blame: none certainly to hang.

The ceremony was dreary, and rather puerile. The whole thing too strongly reminded one of the Lilliput Levee.

Oh, the Glorious Revolution!  
Oh, the British Indian Constitution!  
Now that the Sahebs, clever bold folks,  
Have turned the tables on the Moguls and Mugs!  
Easily and in a trice the thing was done,  
Though the Prize boys were more than two to one.  
None brave as lions, many quick as foxes,  
Others with land or silver safe in boxes!

His Majesty *bah'doored* some eight or ten,  
Perhaps a score or so of gentlemen,  
And would-be gents, some short and others tall—  
"Arise, Baboo What the-deuce-they-you-call."

One fat gentleman, too fat by far,  
Was Master O' Ceremonies throughout Durbar.  
His voice was gruff, his pants were hot and tight  
His wife had said, "Mind, dear, don't bungle outright."

But the grand Grand Chamberlain passed the test.  
He was up to the thing and did his best, &c.

But, then, it was a poor business at best. And even the big man with the bale of blue serge surcharged with heavy gold lace, could not make the ridiculous sublime. The authorities evidently had no heart in the matter. While our Governor's own palace was undergoing repairs, and he was shifting for himself, away from his capital at a *chateau* lent him by his Chief the Khedive, the ceremony was perfunctorily gone through in the verandah of his office in the city, during the heat and bustle of the day. The verandah is the most magnificent in the country, less broad perhaps than the monster verandah in Baboo JADULAL MULLICK'S house in the Suburbs but longer far—and it was airy of course. It could have been improvised into a thing of beauty. But the atmosphere of a terrible office like the Bengal Secretariat—a department for pulling the noses of the minor rulers of the land scattered about—represses all the finer aspirations of the soul. The place was ordered to be decorated, to be sure, in the usual fashion. A hero's son who aspires to execute great public works, was impressed into the house-decorator's rôle, apparently with instructions from the Financial Secretary to do the thing and have done with it as cheap as possible. No wonder if it was left, like all the arrangements, to the tender mercies of the

clerks. The result was as hideous as bunting and cheap blue linen could make it. Happily punkahs were put up, to avoid the repetition of history in the immediate vicinity of the Black Hole, but the parti-colored fringes were a continual torture.

The arrangements were in keeping. Gentlemen were left to take the chance of finding seats as best they could, or stand in any odd hook or corner or between chairs. We are not talking of the profane vulgar or mere "gentlemen of the press," but men acredited to the lips or owning a substantial interest in the Public Debt, privileged to draw their thousands a month of pay, were sent from pillar to post. It was nobody's duty to see the guests provided. The clerks who freely moved backwards and forwards, were too important personages for the moment to look at the dogs—including well-known faces, even their own friends—drawn by invitation almost of the nature of command to see the Tamasha at their Master's house.

The Lieutenant-Governor entered the Durbar verandah in a sort of procession, reminding you of the Judges in scarlet entering the Sessions Court to sit on their grim work. On his taking his seat, the more favoured recipients were one after another introduced and sent after their business, each to reappear in his new guise. Thus, Raja RAMESWAR SING Bahadoor, brother of the Maharaja of Durbhunga, Nawab ABDOL LUTEEF Bahadoor, Raja MAHENDRALAL KHAN of Narajole, Midnapore, Raja DOORGA CHURN LAW and the Hon'ble Raja PEARY MOHUN MOOKERJEE, son of Baboo JOYKISSAN MOOKERJEE of Uttarpara, Hooghly, were brought up one by one and duly invested. His Honor had a good word for each of them, most of them being familiar faces to him. The Rai Bahadoors and Khan Bahadoors next and last formed one promiscuous lot and received their sunnuds, with a few general remarks. The Lieutenant-Governor next himself entertained them and some other native gentlemen present with utter and pan, the remaining native gentlemen of the two front rows being treated to like courtesy by the Secretaries. Sir STEUART BAYLEY concluded by addressing the whole audience. He thanked them for their patience through the fatiguing ceremony, apologized that the Durbar could not be held at Belvedere, referred to the Jubilee in England and to the sad death of Sir ASHLEY EDEN, and finally exhorted the good boys not to rest content with the prizes they had won, but to work on for more and better ones, and be an example to others, and lastly he wished them long life and prosperity.

The guard of honour, supplied by a detachment of the 7th N. I. Regiment under command of a European officer, presented arms to the Lieutenant-Governor, the Band playing the National Anthem.

### THE SICK-MAN AT HOME.

#### THE EX-KING OF OUDH.

FOR some days all sorts of rumours have been in circulation about the health of our illustrious suburban neighbour the King of Oudh. Some impudent designing folk have gone the length of giving out that His Majesty was dead. We are in a position to give the exact truth. The king is now old, and infirm of course, and he has long been ailing, but he is very far from a moribund condition yet. He is weak, however, and feels his end drawing. It cannot be long deferred, he feels, or thinks, and, like a pious man with some share of worldly wisdom, wishes to dispose of his affairs and prepare for the next world. To this, however, his people as distinguished from his own, have very grave objections—of a personal, not to say selfish, character. Accordingly, they are banded together to thwart their royal master. They would thwart the great King of Terrors, and keep him out of his prey, if they could. This might seem very loyal and generous of them. Not a bit of it. It is only a struggle between the two over the same prey—a quarrel about the exclusive possession of the spoil. The victim, such as it is, is now the mortals', Death having as yet only a sort of lien on the royal exile, to come into operation in due course, for certain. The King's superior officers and upper servants are only interested in his life; they would keep their puppet as long as they could, for the splendid opportunity of wasting his substance and ruling the great household in his name. So they flatter His Majesty into the belief that he is well enough. If the signs are too visible even to the eyes of Oriental royalty, his minions and ministers scare him away from dwelling on them and doing the needful under the circumstances, by representing that to do so was to hasten the dreaded finale. And such indeed is the common belief.

Notwithstanding all, the king on Wednesday sent for his nephew Prince JEHAN KUDR. This is the son and heir of the king's brother usually called the General Sahib, still remembered in Oudh as the

ablest member of the family, who, with his mother the Queen Dowager, went to England to protest against the Annexation. Prince JEHAN KUDR remained with His Majesty from 6 in the morning to 3 P.M. Most of the time the king himself spoke. As the king is deaf, the conversation was heard and has caused the greatest alarm among those in power in the Household. The king opened out his heart to his nephew, spoke of his approaching end, and proposed to make over charge of his affairs to him. The Prince politely declined, but was, before leaving, persuaded to consent. The box of seals was to be made over to him and he was to draw and receive the next monthly stipend and to spend according to the previous allotments and his own discretion.

No sooner had the Prince left than the others set to unsettle the king's mind, loudly lamenting his morbid apprehension of death. To make sure of their game and to discredit the Prince with both king and the British Residency, they abstracted the box of seals—a valuable work of art, presented by the then Governor-General to GHAZI UDDIN HYDER SHAH, which is an heirloom of the family—and made-believe it was stolen by the Prince, a contemptible hole being made in the wall of the room in which it was kept, next to the Prince's stable. Of course, whether the Prince was convicted or suspected of theft or not, there were no seals to deliver, and the whole Palace is absorbed in the latest sensation.

### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 6th July 1887.—Baboo Ashutosh Sircar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Dacca.

Baboo Ashutosh Sircar is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870, for the purpose of acquiring land required for public purposes in the Dacca district.

The 8th July 1887.—Mr. J. G. Ritchie, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serampore, Hooghly, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, with effect from the 24th June 1887.

The 11th July 1887.—Baboo Hurry Mohun Chandra, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Rajshahy Division, is allowed leave for sixty-three days, under section 72 of Civil Leave Code, with effect from the afternoon of the 8th instant.

Baboo Lalit Chandra Neogee is appointed to act as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, and as Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Rajshahy Division, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Hurry Mohun Chandra, or until further orders.

The 12th July 1887.—Mr. W. F. C. Montrieux, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rampore Hat, Beerbhoom, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that subdivision.

Baboo Burhandeo Narain, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mozufferpore, is transferred to Durbhunga, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Baboo Gopal Chunder Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Durbhunga, is transferred to Burdwan, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

JUDICIAL.—The 6th July 1887.—Baboo Ashutosh Sircar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

The 11th July 1887.—Baboo Taraprasad Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manbhoom, is vested with powers under section 110 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

### THE DACCA MUNICIPALITY.

#### TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—You are aware of the rate-payers' suit against the Municipality of Dacca pending in the local Munsiff since the arrival of Sir Rivers Thompson at Dacca about two years ago. Lately the Chairman engaged extra pleaders from the Judge's Court to conduct the defence in the Munsiff's Court. Some of the Commissioners objected to this outlay, specially as the Legal Remembrancer has expressed that all expenses for defence should be borne by the Commissioners themselves. Those Commissioners sent a formal written requisition to the Chairman asking him to call a meeting of the Commissioners on the 6th instant, to consider this and other matters where the Chairman's proceedings appeared to them improper. But no meeting was called by the Chairman yesterday the 6th instant, thus setting the requisition and law at naught. We don't see the slightest Commissioners taking other steps. It is presumed that the Chairman has seen those Commissioners privately and lulled them by some lullaby of which the Chairman is quite a master, as the Commissioners were last year smoothed no sooner their indignation burst out on finding the savings, amounting to Rs. 1,000, of the lighting account spent for building a pucks drain at the back of the Chairman's house. As no one's personal interest is affected, it is not very difficult for the Chairman to gain over the Commissioners by some means or other.—Yours &c.,  
Dacca, 7th July 1887.  
A RATEPAYER.



## THE MARINE COURT.

The Loss of the *Sir John Lawrence*.

THE FIRST DAY.—MONDAY, JULY 11.

A Marine Court of Inquiry under section 7 of Act V. of 1883 (Indian Merchant Shipping Act) was held at the Port Office, at the instance of the Government of Bengal, "for the purpose of investigating all the circumstances connected with the loss of the S. S. *Sir John Lawrence* in the Bay of Bengal on the 25th of May last."

Present :—C. H. Reily, Esq., Chief Presidency Magistrate, President, and Captain H. de Smidt and E. Trelawney, Esq., Superintendents, and O. Company, members.

Mr. G. C. Kilby, Deputy Legal Remembrancer, conducted the enquiry on behalf of the Government.

Mr. J. Orr, solicitor, appeared to watch the proceedings on behalf of the agents of the *Sir John Lawrence*, Messrs. Macneill and Co.

The President.—Do you wish to open the case, Mr. Kilby?

Mr. Kilby.—No, I do not, because I have not been supplied with information. I must leave it to the witnesses, who will be called and examined to state what they knew.

President.—What particular points do you want to find out?

Mr. Kilby.—There is a letter which I wish to put in of June, 1887, by Mr. Newstone, in which he draws attention to certain charges he made in October, 1886, in a letter he wrote to the Port Officer, the Lieutenant-Governor, and Health Officer with reference to the survey and the state of the *Sir John Lawrence* at that time. I shall put him in and examine him with regard to the statements and remarks made by him. I then propose to examine the surveyor and the Macneill and Company's Shipping Officer who looks after their vessels, and the Superintending Engineer.

The President.—This is only an enquiry into the circumstances connected with the loss of the ship, and I do not think that there can be any question raised as to whether the ship was well surveyed in 1885 or not.

Mr. Kilby.—This is a general enquiry into the circumstances bearing on the vessel going out to sea, and the enquiry may be useful for future rules the Government may pass for regulation. I do not know what.

Mr. Newstone.—May I be allowed to suggest?

The President.—I cannot allow you to speak now. When was the last survey held?

Mr. Orr.—In April 1887. May I be allowed to ask whether Mr. Newstone is prosecuting?

The President.—No, he is a witness.

Mr. Orr.—May I ask whether the Court will allow the former letters of Mr. Newstone and the Government Resolution on it to be put in as a part of the proceedings of the present enquiry? I wish them to be produced.

Mr. Kilby.—I do not think that is necessary, as the present enquiry has nothing to do with the formal enquiry.

The President.—I do not think the present letter from the Government has anything to do with the formal enquiry.

Mr. Kilby.—On those former letters certain reports were made, and a Resolution passed, and the result of that has nothing to do with the present enquiry, because the Government has again placed the whole matter before us as a Court for a formal enquiry, the former one being an informal enquiry.

The President.—I wish to get at the charges.

Mr. Kilby.—There are no "charges" so far as I can see; but there are certain allegations made in those letters. He gives a number of instances in which he says this vessel was not properly found, and these are put in considerable detail. I will read the letter afterwards.

Mr. Orr.—I think in common fairness it ought to be produced.

The President.—I shall see about it. At present we must not lose sight of the fact that this is an enquiry into all the circumstances connected with the loss of the *Sir John Lawrence*. We must do that first.

Evidence was then gone into.

Captain Roxburgh Spens, Commander of the *Tyrone*, was first called, and stated.—My vessel is a native passenger steamer plying between Calcutta and Chandbally. Just previous to the cyclone I was in Calcutta, but went down the day of the cyclone, the 25th of May. I anchored at Kedgeree, because the weather was threatening, and the storm signals were up. I first saw them at 10-30 A.M., at Mud Point. I saw them the first half hour after I anchored and then lost sight of them on account of the weather becoming too thick. When I anchored there were no other steamers there, but the *Curlew* anchored ten minutes after I did. The weather became thick at 11-30 A.M., and I only saw the signals with powerful glasses. The signal was No. 8, which indicated that a small cyclone, such as is usual in the rains, was passing to the westward of Saugor. There are nine signals, the lower numbers indicating severer cyclones. While at anchor the *Sir John Law-*

*rence* passed us at 1 P.M. She had even passed Mud Point, but I do not know whether she had seen the signals, as it may have been too thick to see them. When she passed on the weather was very threatening, wind from N.-E. increasing in strength. I have had experience of some 16 years of the river and the coast, that is, in command, and was for one year before in charge of the *Night Hawk* and in country ships since 1864 I have been in two or three cyclones. From my experience at the time the *Sir John Lawrence* passed me, I considered there was going to be a cyclone, which was coming up. She passed me a quarter to half a mile off. The river was smooth then, but it gave us no indication of what the sea was outside. When this signal No. 8 is up, vessels of light draft can go to sea, but not deep vessels. It does not forbid any. It says: "Only vessels of light draft should go to sea." I made no effort to prevent this ship from going to sea. After she had passed me the squalls increased in strength from the N.E. gradually, and the barometer fell steadily until 4 A.M., next morning, the 26th of May. The barometer fell from 29.60 at 11 A.M., to 29.34 at 4 A.M., of the 26th. The wind from 8 P.M. gradually hauled round from S.-E. to E. with very heavy squalls. At 4 A.M., the wind hauled still more to S., and the barometer commenced to rise. The wind increased from nine till noon, when the barometer registered 29.45. From noon the wind hauled to S.-S.-W., and gradually abated. I remained at anchor till Friday morning, the 27th, and then got under way and proceeded on my voyage, arriving at Chandbally at 11 P.M. I encountered a very heavy sea in the Western Channel, but it was much smoother to the westward. From my experience of the weather I had no reason to think it was sufficient to make her founder; we were not in the centre of the storm. I thought she would have been drifted down the coast, and hardly expected to find her at Chandbally. I saw no wreckage on my way down at all. The following week I passed a few dead bodies, three in the Western Channel, but I saw no wreckage. I imagine they were natives, but the bodies had turned white. The *Sir John Lawrence* has not been heard of since. I believe there can be no doubt she foundered there. She was a good sea boat, I believe. She always proved herself so. I have been on board her several times. She was well fitted and found. I never heard anything to the contrary. I carry coolies. In the foul season we carry 886 native passengers. Their tickets are sold at the offices of the Company. I do not sell any. No one sells tickets on board our vessels. We have no tickets to sell. If a full complement of tickets is not sold at the office, we take passengers who come on board, and who pay their money on board. We receive instructions when a full complement of passengers are coming. I do not usually get the full complement. Very seldom, except in the pilgrim season, Native passengers usually are allowed to come on board at 8 P.M., that is, after the cargo has all been taken in. The men, when they come on board, are properly tallied on by the secunnie and chief officer. The police are always present to count the passengers with us, and invariably do so. The Captain cannot take a larger number of passengers than he is allowed, because at Chandbally they are again counted out by the police. On one occasion many years ago I had on board more than the licensed number of passengers, and I was heavily fined for it. The police said I had 60 more, though I denied it, and I was fined Rs. 990. This happened at Chandbally. I do not think the excess number were there. I do not remember whether Captain Irvine was ever fined for this offence. He may have been, but I do not remember it.

The President here remarked that the last answers were not of much relevancy.

Mr. Kilby did not know anything about that, but he had to dive into all these matters in the chance of something turning up. It was the desire of the Government and the Press, especially the Native Press, to ascertain all particulars connected with the loss of the vessel, or which were likely to throw light on the point.

Mr. Kilby.—I do not think that anything which Mr. Newstone has stated in his letter will go to show or even suggest that the vessel was overcrowded, or show how she was lost.

The President.—The only matter before us is to enquire into the circumstances connected with the loss of the *Sir John Lawrence*.

Mr. Kilby.—If that is so, then all I can say is that there is no use of Mr. Newstone's statements.

The President.—I shall put him into the box, because he can then ventilate these charges, and then we can deal with them in our judgment. I shall not place the slightest check upon him when he is in the box, to bring them forward. Any evidence as to the state the vessel was in in 1887 I shall be glad to take.

Mr. Kilby.—I think, under these circumstances, we shall find it difficult to connect the loss of the vessel with Mr. Newstone's charges.

The Court here adjourned for lunch.

On reassembling.—

Mr. Kilby.—You consider, Sir, that the enquiry is limited to matters connected with the loss of the *Sir John Lawrence*.

The President.—I do not consider this to be a roving commission for the purpose of going into matters connected with the sanitation of the vessel or such questions, but as an enquiry into every point,

however, remote, connected with the loss of the vessel, or to which it is attributable. As regards the seaworthiness of the ship I give you the freest scope.

Captain Spens recalled by the Court.—There were other signals at Saugar. I saw none at Diamond Harbour. We passed there at 8-30 A.M. I should have seen signals at Saugar if I had gone on. Under ordinary circumstances the *Sir John Lawrence* would have passed Saugar at 2-15 P.M., from whence she could have seen the signals in ordinary weather. The signals would have been passed at eight miles distance, and if the weather was at all hazy we could not have seen them. I do not think she saw the signals at Saugar; it was too thick, rainy. She was generally behind us. She must have passed the Mud Point signals at 11-30 A.M., four to five miles off. I think it quite possible she could not have seen the signals; it is quite low, and the flagstaff is a broken one. If I had been on the *Sir John Lawrence*, and if I had not seen the signals, I should have anchored. In fact, I had made up my mind to anchor if I had not seen the signals. I made up my mind to have anchored at Kedgerree if the signals were up or not. I arrived at this conclusion from the state of the weather, as before I got to Fisherman's Point the weather had become bad. I thought the Captain of the ship was acting rashly in going out as he did at the time, the weather being bad, and the barometer low. This was wholly unconnected with seeing the signals or not. I think his conduct was rash, because he had a large number of passengers on board, and however well he might weather the storm, the passengers would certainly be much knocked about and injured, and possibly killed. Though I did not think the vessel would founder, I thought it would be put to a severe strain, and would do her no good. I thought the cyclone would be a more severe one than the No. 8 signal indicated. This was when I anchored at Kedgerree. I think the signal hoisted was an appropriate one, as it would have been difficult for the authorities to hoist any other. I do not recollect seeing No. 8 hung out before. In my opinion the rules for signalling are too precise. I have disregarded signals. On one occasion last year, I went out when No. 7 was hoisted at Saugar, and we had fine weather. This signal indicates a storm to eastward. In any case I should not have gone out when No. 8 was hoisted if my course lay to westward. If I had been in command of the *Sir John Lawrence* that morning I should not have gone out under any circumstances, independently of carrying cargo or passengers. There was a risk of having the vessel damaged. She was in light trim when she passed us. I did not speak the *Sir John Lawrence* when she passed. We spoke the *Curlew* at Mud Point, and both made up our minds to go back to Diamond Harbour if the storm signals were up. This was before I saw the storm signal at Mud Point. We saw the signals when the *Curlew* turned round to go back. I came on with the intention of anchoring at Kedgerree, because a small storm was passing to the westward, and I thought I could ride out there in safety. The *Curlew* followed me.

To Captain de Smidt.—I did not know what the *Sir John Lawrence* drew. She was not crank when I saw her. She had a jib and two trysails set. She had her awning stretched on the upper deck. When passing there were some passengers on her deck, but she did not appear very crowded. It was an open deck railed round. The only protection against the sea breaking over her was the rails and netting. She had a spar deck and main deck as far as I knew.

To Mr. Trelawney.—There was no rivalry between the three Companies at that time in running passengers to Chandbally. No inducements are held out to Captains to make what are called "smart" passages.

To Mr. Orr.—I knew the chief officer of the *Sir John Lawrence*, Mr. Smith. He was put for three years on this line. He was in command of a tug before. He was a man of good experience in navigating the Sandheads and the Hughli. The Captain's name was Peter Irvine. When at Kedgerree my passengers were on deck and between decks. There was no necessity for battening down the batches at any time. I heard the *Sir John Lawrence* was in the cyclone of 1874. That was in October. That cyclone was a larger cyclone than this one, and several ships were lost. Captain Baldwin was then in command of her. I think Captain Irvine was then chief mate. The vessel was missing for some days, but she came up all right with the loss of her boats. I do not think she lost any passengers.

William Henry Newstein said.—I was chief officer of the *Sir John Lawrence* for nearly 13 months. I left the service on the 25th of October last year. I wrote on the 28th of October a letter to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. This is it (put in and marked B). With that I forwarded a letter to the Health Officer, another to the Surveyor, Mr. McKeller, and another to the Port Officer. This is a list of the repairs, which I was ordered to make out in order to give the engineers information as to the coming docking of the vessel. I wrote another letter to the Lieutenant-Governor on the 5th of June, 1887, after the loss of the vessel, and with it I enclosed two copies of the letters previously sent in to the Port Officer and Assistant Government Surveyor (put in and marked C.)

Mr. Kilby here read the letters referred to which showed that, in the opinion of the witness, grave defects existed in the vessel

which had passed several surveys and which, in the witness's opinion showed grave want of attention on the part of the owners. These were mainly that the windlass would not work freely, that the chains had several defective links in them, that the canvas house of the donkey engine was defective, and the port after boat not able to float. In one part of one of his letters the writer stated that he took the step to save Jack afloat from money-lending merchants who were indifferent to the safety of their passengers or crews.

Witness, examined, stated.—The most important part of the unseaworthiness of the vessel was, first, the state of the windlass, which was utterly useless. I saw it last on the 26th of October, the date on which I left. The starboard side of the gify had worn itself some three quarters of an inch into the wooden bits which supported the spindle. In consequence it would not go round, and you could not get up chain or use the starboard anchor. The casting which supported the centre spindle was broken. The whole body was forced over to starboard. On attempting to moor the ship at the Salt Golahs, after she came out of deck on the 25th of October, we were compelled to take the whole of the chain up from the port side, as it was impossible to use the starboard fire. Mr. Mathewson, the Harbour Master, did all he could, but did not succeed in getting the starboard side of the windlass to work. He had to swear fearfully and a good deal in consequence, saying it was "a rascally condition for the ship to be in, just after survey." It was a double windlass acting on a diagonal centre cogwheel. This is the principal charge. The others are not so serious. The scuppers pipes, too, were in a bad state. The leaden pipe was just flanged out over the iron plate, and had no iron leg guards to clamp it to the side. They were in existence when the ship was new, but had been knocked away. They were much more necessary when the ship was old. The bolts of the leg guards were left on the sides, in some cases broken off half through the plate. They might have been forced in at any moment by the sea. One of them was repeatedly pushed in when in port by boot-hooks. These pipes led through the hold into sides. There were holes in one of them at the time of the survey. In a rough sea this was a very serious danger. I had to block them up for the sake of my own life, with cement. It was an easy matter to have repaired them; but nothing was done up to the time I left. The next important thing was the state of the pumps. There was a survey shortly after I joined, on October the 1st, 1885. They poured water down to try them. The after one worked fairly well, but the forward one the water ran through as fast as you poured it in. Subsequently on examination the pumps were there, but the pipes were over a beam, having never been connected with the pumps. They were dented in. A year-and-a-half before I joined, she was supposed to have undergone a heavy repair. She had been given up, laying at the buoys, doing nothing, for about 12 months. Before these repairs the pumps had three connexions—one to each bilge, and one to the sea. After the repairs the two connexions were cut away, one single pipe in the centre being substituted. Pumps led on to the main deck. The ship could not be pumped out except on an even keel, and that by the after pumps only. Subsequently the forward one was connected. There were two water tanks intended for passengers, one was connected to the deck, and the other was not. The vessel collided with the *Indore* before I joined her, and a hole was knocked in her bow between wind and water. The patch put on her was about two feet square. It was a metal patch, hurriedly put on. It was the ugliest thing ever put on a vessel, and I know that no vessel has ever been allowed to leave the port with a patch like that. It was too thin to beat it. This I gathered from the engineers who are here now. Mr. Leach is one of them, and Mr. Thorpe the other. I saw the vessel shortly before her last voyage, and would often go and see her. The last time I saw her, three months ago, the patch was there, and the leg guards were un-repaired. The plate should have been removed after the collision. If they had pulled one plate out, they would never have been able to stop pulling, as the whole ship was so old that it would have gone to pieces in the attempt.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

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## The Week.

GOLIATH has been slain at last. The great Civilian, Member of the Board of Revenue of the Lower Provinces, has fallen. Mr. BEAMES has been cooked in his own juice and dished. "Victory to the sons of Pandu with whom is the Lord!"

THE result is a legitimate triumph of the despised Native Press—above all, of the redoubtable *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. May its shadow never grow less! It was an arduous struggle in which it was engaged. It fought against odds. But *veritas vincit*. Neither the bullying and mystifying of nearly the whole of the Anglo-Indian Press, nor the influence of the whole civilian body, could save Mr. BEAMES from exposure nor wholly protect him from justice.

The Viceroy has insisted upon some visible punishment upon the powerful transgressor. And Mr. BEAMES must vacate—for a time at least—his cozy seat on the Board of Revenue. He has been transferred to the country to the office of Commissioner of Bhagulpore.

WHILE the Native Press triumphs, the European Press in general must hide themselves in sackcloth and ashes. The famous anecdote of the Bengal tiger and the ready and self-possessed Briton turning his back on the royal animal and frightening him with the apparition of a kind of

creatures that Adam never knew, by staring at him through his own outstretched legs, now recoils upon our White brethren of the quill. The Baboo writer remains the veritable royal tiger, and the rash Briton, who made light of his growl and even mocked him, has been fearfully mauled, and now this mighty Celestial lies prostrate almost like a dead CÆSAR.

O mighty Cæsar! dost thou lie so low?  
Are all thy conquests, glories, triumphs, spoils,  
Shrunk to this little measure?—Fare thee well!

Or, in our valedictory notice of one of the august fraternity of the Heaven-born rulers of our country—of the eminent chiefs of the Celestials—should we not rather go up from the poetry even of SHAKESPEARE to Holy Writ and take our cue from prophets? The proverb suggested by Isaiah against King Nebuchadnessar seems (to use an expressive colloquialism) so pat to the occasion—"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!"

Poor Mr. BEAMES is greatly to be pitied. Yes, he has brought himself to a pass in which he must endure to be the butt of every native writer's pity.

And none so poor to do him reverence.

BUT Viceroy and Lieutenant are kind and forgiving, and they have spared him the legal due of his acts and thus saved him from desperation. Above all, God is merciful, and tempers the wind to the shorn lamb. There will be some appreciable alleviation to the humbled man in the Government support of his Burdwan policy.

THE Lieutenant-Governor started on his tour as announced on the 20th and arrived at Burdwan the same evening, accompanied by his Aide-Camp and Private Secretary. He was received by the Commissioner of the Division, the Collector, the Judge, many European residents and native gentlemen, among them Lala BUN BEHARI KAPUR

and Baboo BANGSA GOPAL NUNDAY. There was a guard of honor of the police under the District Superintendent Colonel HUME. The Municipal Commissioners, numbering 20, presented an address of welcome which was read by the Chairman Baboo NALINAKSHI BOSE. Having replied, Sir STEUART drove through a crowd of sightseers to the Rajbari to partake of the hospitality of the Maharani whose guest he was during his stay. The next morning the Lieutenant-Governor had interviews with the Maharani and the Dowager Maharani and decided the fate of the Burdwan raj. Later in the day he distributed prizes at the Raj College and attended an afternoon party at the Dilkhusa. At night he held a reception at the Rajbari.

SPECULATIONS about the Burdwan succession have been set at rest. The report of the Board of Revenue and Mr. BEAMES' importunate supplement to it have prevailed. The Lieutenant-Governor has consented to the adoption of the Honourable Lala BUN BEHARI KAPUR's son by the young Maharani.

Happy, happy, happy Bun!  
None but the brave,  
None but the brave,  
None but the brave deserves to win.

THE Queen has addressed the following letter to the Home Secretary—  
"Windsor Castle, June 24.

"I am anxious to express to my people my warm thanks for the kind, and more than kind, reception I met with on going to and returning from Westminster Abbey, with all my children and grandchildren.

"The enthusiastic reception I met with then, as well as on all these eventful days, in London, as well as in Windsor, on the occasion of my Jubilee, has touched me most deeply. It has shown that the labour and anxiety of fifty long years, twenty-two of which I spent in unclouded happiness, shared and cheered by my beloved husband, while an equal number were full of sorrows and trials, borne without his sheltering and wise help, have been appreciated by my people.

"This feeling and the sense of duty towards my dear country and subjects, who are so inseparably bound up with my life, will encourage me in my task, often a very difficult and arduous one, during the remainder of my life.

"The wonderful order preserved on this occasion, and the good behaviour of the enormous multitudes assembled, merits my highest admiration.

"That God may protect and abundantly bless my country is my fervent prayer.

"VICTORIA R. AND I."

A CRIMEAN veteran and ex-Adjutant of the Guards, just returned from Turkey, compliments in *Vanity Fair* the Turkish troops as "the finest troops I ever saw, and they would walk over our line battalions."

THE Czar's Winter Palace on the Neva is illuminated with 12,000 incandescent electric lamps and 56 powerful arcs. Eight engines are worked developing 2,500 horse power, the dynamos including reserve machines number 26.

IN San Francisco they produced bricks from ashes and cinders, and are now trying them.

WHILE the Vienna professors have found against PASTEUR'S discovery, the English Committee—among others, Sir H. ROSCOE, Sir JAMES PAGET, and Professor BURDEN SANDERSON, with Professor VICTOR HORSLAY as Secretary—have reported in favor of his methods. After several months' testing they have come to the conclusion that rabies is

undeniably communicable, that inoculation against it is possible and effectual by means of injected emulsions taken from the spinal cord of animals that have died of the malady. They have observed that of the dogs and rabbits, protected by inoculation and unprotected, and subjected to bites from the same rabid animals, the protected escaped free while the unprotected caught the disease and died.

To complete the spoliation of the Ava-Kingdom, the sacred beast of Burma is also to be exiled. THEEBAW'S White Elephant will be herded with other animals in the Rangoon Zoo.

THE dreadful situation in the *Ancient Mariner*—

Water, water, every where,  
Nor any drop to drink.—

is being remedied. It is reported that sea-water may be rendered drinkable. By the addition of citrate of silver, the chloride of silver is preprecipitated. An ounce of citrate gives half a pint of water.

THE Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council, Madras, has much pleasure in placing on record his high appreciation of the liberality of the ex-Raja of Venkatagiri, for building a poor house at Venkatagiri and endowing it with 4 per cent. Government paper of the value of Rs. 30,000 and the shrotriam village Kalichedu in the Rapur taluq, the Government having the full administration of the charity.

THE sensational news from Madras is that Mr. C. RAMCHENDRA IYER has been temporarily appointed the District and Sessions Judge of Salem. He had been a Subordinate Judge of the second grade drawing Rs. 650. For some time he was a Presidency Magistrate and drew Rs. 800. Next he was raised to the Statutory Civil Service. That elevation which made him an Assistant Collector, reduced his pay to Rs. 611. To make up the deficiency, he will now draw two-thirds of Rs. 2,333 the salary attached to his present office. He had been only four months in the Civil Service. He is godfathered by the Hon'ble Mr. HUTCHINS in charge of the Judicial Department.

Mr. S. SRINIVASON IYER, the first Uncovenanted Assistant of the Madras Board of Revenue, is also the observed of all observers. He is a graduate of the local University and was Professor of Logic in that institution when he was taken in into the Board. The members have recommended him for exemption from all special tests of the service. Hence he is marked out for newspaper comment, in the Presidency. And no wonder, for the pay he draws is Rs. 500—a sum which might have provided many a newspaper writer with meat and wine.

THE latest Palitana news is—

"A dispute that has long been pending between the reigning Chief of Palitana and his younger brother, Kumar Shri Samatsingjee, has at last culminated in a law-suit, instituted for the recovery of eleven lakhs of rupees alleged to belong to the Durbar. The facts of the case have long formed the subject of discussion in this city, where the defendant has, until recently, been a temporary resident. The trial is proceeding before Mr. G. C. Whitworth, Judicial Assistant Political Agent, at Rajkote; and the parties concerned are the Chief of Palitana, as plaintiff, and his brother, Samatsingji as defendant. The evidence that has, so far, been tendered to the court by the plaintiff goes to show that in recent years a bitter enmity existed between the present Thakore and his father, Shri Soorsingjee; so pronounced, indeed, was the feeling that the latter was desirous to divert the succession to his younger son the present defendant, and the elder fled from Palitana in fear of his life. The Thakore was actually engaged in Poona in endeavouring to obtain the sanction of the Government to his proposal that his younger son should succeed him as ruler of Palitana, when he died, about the end of 1885. His Highness was, however, succeeded by the eldest son a month later. At this time the treasury was supposed to contain some eighty lakhs of rupees, and, besides this large accumulation of wealth, it was known that the younger son had in his possession other thirteen lakhs, which he said had been presented to him from the State coffers by his father. In the belief that he was himself a very rich man, the elder brother, sorely against his will, was induced to accept this explanation, and, by a formal deed, allow Samatsingjee to retain possession of the thirteen lakhs of rupees. Having secured this satisfactory settlement, the younger prince promptly removed his treasure out of his father's way. The wisdom of this precaution was soon apparent. An examination of the exchequer did not disclose the eighty lakhs of rupees which the late Chief was said to have left behind him. There was probably not more than a quarter of that sum. Simultaneously it was discovered that the State account-books only showed that a sum of two lakhs of rupees had been given by the late Chief to his younger son, as interest on some loans that had been made to it. Samatsingjee was therefore called on to refund eleven lakhs of rupees. He did nothing of the kind. He sought refuge in Bombay, and spent several months very pleasantly in making himself acquainted with our leading citizens. This contumacy resulted in an appeal to the Government, who directed

that a civil suit should be instituted. This was done two months ago, and the case is now at hearing. Samatsingjee denies that he illegally took any money from the State treasury. The thirteen lakhs of rupees which he sent out of Palitana were, he asserts, voluntary gifts made by his father to himself and his family at different periods, in the desire to make suitable provision for him in the event of the elder brother succeeding to the Chiefship."—*The Advocate of India*.

NAWAB DILAR JUNG spent freely like an Indian Nawab on the Jubilee day. He took the entire Albemarle Hotel at the corner of Albemarle-street overlooking St. James-street, and there entertained a large number of the *élite* of London society—at a cost of £4,000.

THE *Rangoon Times*, which, by the way, advertises for an editor, reports severe famine in the eastern division of the Shan Districts.

THE official report of the prospects of the Jute crop in Bengal to the end of June 1887 is as follows :—

"On the whole, so far as can be judged of at present, it may be said that the area sown this year is about ten per cent. above that of last year; and taking into consideration the facts that the area sown is above the normal and that the deficient outturn caused by floods in some districts will be counterbalanced by the bumper yield in others, it may be expected that the total outturn will be a full average. Much will, however, depend on the distribution of rainfall in the latter half of July and beginning of August."

MR. DAUKES, the Secretary to the Public Service Commission, does not accompany the Sub-Committee to Bombay and Madras, but remains at Simla and sketches out the report of the Commission.

TWO Bengalis have this year successfully competed for the Indian Civil Service, sons of two Barristers-at-law, Messrs. O. C. MULLICK and C. C. DUTT.

THE *Englishman* denies the report current that the Naihatti caisson of the Jubilee Bridge over the Hooghly is showing signs of subsiding.

MR. P. NOLAN, General Revenue and Statistical Secretary, Bengal, goes on one month and fifteen days' leave from the first August. Mr. W. C. MACPHERSON, Under-Secretary, officiates for him, Mr. H. W. C. CARNDUFF, Officiating Joint, Serajgunge, acting as Under Secretary.

DR. PILCHER, having played out his part in Howrah, has taken 3 months' leave and also resigned his place in the Municipality. He does not come back to Howrah after his temporary *otium cum dig*, but will be sent to the cooler atmosphere of Darjeeling.

MR. E. V. WESTMACOTT, the Magistrate, has been elected Chairman of the Howrah Municipality.

THE Fifth Criminal Sessions of 1887 commences on Monday, the 1st proximo.

THE High Court (the Chief Justice, Mr. Justice PIGOTT and Mr. Justice GHOSH) have confirmed the Chief Magistrate's sentence of Rs. 600 fine on Captain NICHOLLS of the B. S. *Brenda* for not carrying side lights. The Captain contended that it was not usual in the passage round the Cape to Calcutta to show side lights, because few vessels took that course in the autumn and no vessels from Calcutta passed that way. Another argument was that the nights were moon light nights, that a good look out was always kept and that on one occasion, the glass of one of the side lights had been broken by the sea and the sea had extinguished the light. The Chief Justice considered these grounds as only enhancing the culpability of the Captain, and declined to interfere with the sentence. The Captain draws only £20 a month as salary.

AT a time when public attention is being drawn to the pecuniary dealings of public servants in India, it may not be uninteresting to know of the private affairs of the same class in other Christian lands. We find the following notice of a Police officer in New York city—apparently of the grade of a Superintendent :—

"Captain Williams, a few years ago was a poor man; unless common report does him great injustice, he is a poor man no longer. Aside from his salary, he has a respectable private income which is imperfectly justified by the receipts of his office. His property is said to be worth over \$100,000, and people naturally ask how these fortunes can

be accumulated in a few years from a Police Captain's salary. Captain Williams is a sharp man—a man whom criminals do not like to run against. A few have tried to brave his power, but they have always had to regret it, and it is suspected that this guardian of the peace has waxed fat on the wages of sin. One thing is certain, and that is, that there are more houses of questionable repute—more vile dens and gambling hells—in Captain Alexander S. Williams' precinct, than in any other two precincts in the city of New York; and, strange to state, with hundreds of the finest policemen at his back, he never found it out till informed by the attorney of the Business Men's Protective Association."

Have we no Captain WILLIAMS in our City of Palaces? Mr. BARNARD is new to his present office, but he has been long enough in the Police not to know his men,—that is, if he is worth his salt.

THE Correspondent of the *People's Budget* from whom we quote the above, adds :—

"For years it has been known that a regular system of blackmail was in force among the criminal classes who, by the payment of a certain portion of their earnings, secured immunity from punishment. Until the past year it was impossible to organize a raid upon a gambling house from Police Head-quarters, for in every instance the paid spies of the gamblers preceded the officers of the law."

The same trick is well-known in this city. Our hells too pay regular subsidies for being permitted to carry on their trade. It is only the over-canny rascals that try to do it cheap, without going to the necessary expense, that get sacked, the protectors of the public being only too glad to exhibit their activity and prove their virtue by a genuine raid on these beggars.

Not only the imps of hells but depredators of all kinds, are on the easiest terms with our protectors. Occasionally, a chance unfortunate knight of industry gets into an unavoidable scrape, when the public gets a glimpse into the darker side of life in our blessed city. The other day, a country-mouse from Tipperah was entrapped by one of the numerous gangs permitted to ply the dodge called "Captain." When, at last, he discovered, having been done out of Rs. 2000 or Rs. 3000, on promise of making his fortune as agent of a young millionaire of the Hazareebagh District, he gave notice to the local police station, but the Inspector was in no hurry to pursue the clue offered and rejected the idea of implicating a well-known local budmash.

Had the swindled man relied upon the local Police, he would have got nothing for his pains, unless being hauled up for defamation. But he applied to Head-Quarters, and Mr. HARRISON interested himself in his case. Some of the swindlers were caught, including the chief of them, though others got scent of the matter to escape in time. The prisoners defended themselves—with the part of their spoil that was not disgorged—through a protracted inquiry in the Police Court. But even Mr. AMER HOSSAIN committed them and the High Court convicted them. The roguery of the Police Inspector was also laid bare; in fact, he confessed and was quietly turned out of service. But this was a miserable sinner, without skill or hardihood. The experts who remain behind simply laugh at him.

THEN we have an account of a truly canny Judge of New York :—

"Judge Henry Hilton is one of the executors of the Stewart estate, and an important factor in the estate is Garden City, the site of the beautiful mausoleum under which rest the ashes of Cornelia Stewart alongside of the empty sarcophagus which was intended to contain the ashes of her husband. The object dearest to her heart was to make Garden City one of the grandest Episcopal centres in the country. Last year the clergy met in convention there, and after their exhaustive labors, were invited to dinner at the hotel. Bishop Littlejohn and all the clergy attended, supposing themselves to be the guests of the Trustees of Garden City. They had a first-class time and returned to their homes delighted with Judge Hilton's generous hospitality; but just as they were about to adjourn this week, a bill was presented from Judge Hilton for \$300 for the dinner they had eaten and forgotten over a year ago. Judge Hilton is worth several millions; many of those millions have been made out of the Stewart estate."

Just as Indian official salaries are cked out at the expense of Independent States and Tributary Mahals and ordinary estates of different kinds?

ONE of the smaller "powers that be" is in some trouble at Kurrachee—at the instance of, we note with pleasure, a common day labourer. It was the 21st June, a proclaimed public holiday, on which Her Majesty completed fifty years of her reign. But, as the Bengali proverb hath it, what boots it to the crow that the *bael* (fruit) is ripe?—the shell may be opened by a crowbar, but is still too hard for crow bill. All days are much the same for the poor and unfortunate. Even the Jubilee shone no sabbath-day to the complainant. There was no holiday in the local Railway workshops where he was employed. And well for him, perhaps, that there was none. Ali Bahadoor, as he is called, is a brave name, the associations of which are

of a much higher kind than those of the humblest class of daily drudge. Bating that, the name is certainly, no misnomer for the present owner thereof. He is a brave fellow, beyond dispute. ALI BAHADOOR is a Bahadoor ALI and no mistake. The poor man as usual had gone to work, leaving at home his worthy spouse. He was the less able to take a holiday as she was in a threatening anti-Malthusian attitude, or condition. More than ever he must utilise his time and opportunities. While he was abroad little did he dream of what was going on at home. Neither Mrs. BAHADOOR's sex nor even her interesting situation saved her from the rudeness of outsiders. At any rate, one of his neighbours, indeed his next-door neighbour, was too great a man, being the Head Munshi of the District Superintendent of Police's office, to respect the sanctity of the poor man's castle or of its inmates. Mrs. BAHADOOR was feeding her pigeons on a terrace covered up with old matting which screened her from public view, when the Defendant ALI BAKSH, spying from his door some of the birds, brought out and discharged his gun. Two of the pigeons fell in the lane between the opposite houses and were picked up and carried away by the Munshi's men—doubtless for quick sacrificial despatch (*jeha*) as if life had not been already extinct. A third fell down slightly wounded at Mrs. BAHADOOR's feet. She and her children had been so close to the pigeons, that they stood a good chance of being shot dead or wounded. Hearing all this on his return home, ALI BAHADOOR went to complain at the Police *naka*—station we believe, *Thana* as we would call it. Either the sporting Munshi had anticipated the complainant by sending a hint to the Police, or the name of the great man of the Superintendent's office was as good as a direction. The Police probably thought ALI BAHADOOR lucky in the safety of his wife and children and regarded as impertinence his charging a man in ALI BAKSH's position for a trumpety affair of pigeon shooting which might have lost him his wife and children, though it did not do any injury beyond perhaps giving a shock to the former's nerves. Certainly, poor ALI BAHADOOR's complaint was not received. Nor was this all. ALI BAKSH now sent for his injured neighbour and rebuked him for his insolence, insulted him with reminding him of his abject poverty, impressing on him his rashness in rushing into court when he had not the means to engage a pleader, and finally threatening him with vengeance of the District Superintendent's Munshi and the whole Police. But the purse-proud, power-abusing Munshi had not taken the measure of his man. The poor ALI BAHADOOR was also the Bahadoor ALI—the brave ALI. He might possibly have returned home in disappointment from the Police *naka* and said no more about it, content, to appeal to Allah, the poor man's friend, against the injustice of man and the mockery of a so-called Police, at Kurachee. But the gratuitous insult that his un-neighbourly neighbour added to the original injury, which may have been accidental without malice aforethought, probably filled him with indignation. No inconvenience now weighed a feather with him—the vista of endless trouble from a vindictive Police daunted him not. Leaving his wife in her delicate condition, with her little children, he went out, not to go to work in the railway, but in quest of justice, to the city Magistracy. He returned home empty in pocket but relieved at heart, having got out his summons against the enemy. The case in which Munshi ALI BAKSH stands charged under the I. P. C., secs. 285 to 287, for letting off explosives in a manner to endanger human life, was fixed for the 15th. The *Sind Times*, from whose local column we gather the above particulars, promises further details.

THE subscriptions to the Imperial Institute have come up to between 6 and 7 lakhs of rupees.

IN our last article on the *Sir John Lawrence*, the word "literally," in p. 343, col. 1, was a misprint for "liberally," as the intelligent reader must have found out for himself. There were one or two inaccuracies of a similar kind in the previous art. on the same subject.

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—During every break of wintry weather exertions should be made by the afflicted to recover health before unremitting cold and trying storms set in. Throat ailments, coughs, wheezings, asthmatical affections, shortness of breath, morning nausea, and accumulations of phlegm can readily be removed by rubbing this fine derivative Ointment twice a day upon the chest and neck. Holloway's treatment is strongly recommended with the view of giving immediate ease, preventing prospective danger, and effecting permanent relief. These all-important ends his Ointment and Pills can accomplish, and will surely prevent insidious diseases from fastening on the constitution to display themselves afterwards in those disastrous forms that will probably embitter life till death itself is almost prayed for.



## Editorial Notes.

THE girls are to the fore, and elbowing the boys out at the Universities. Two ladies have won distinction at Cambridge. "Miss RAMSAY, a daughter of Sir JAMES RAMSAY and niece of the well known Professor of Latin at Glasgow, has been placed in the first class by herself in the Classical Tripos over the heads of all competitors, male or female. At the same time Miss K. HERVEY occupies an identical position in the Modern and Mediæval Language Tripos. But the extraordinary theory about Miss RAMSAY is that she only began the study of Greek in 1883." There is nothing extraordinary or necessarily theoretical in this. Granted aptitude, almost any results may be obtained by those who toil for them. If a dozen years were needed for each language, we would not have heard of the many prodigies of linguistic attainments we are continually coming across. MEZZOFANTI is but the best known popular instance of a success common to hundreds. In England itself there was a prodigy of a boy who was a Greek within his teens—we refer to Master MILL, son of the educational martinet, Mr. JAMES MILL. And although the classics had hitherto been kept out of the way of the other sex as hard and repulsive studies, that was in part from a desire not to shock their modesty with stories of the naughty Pagan gods and goddesses, but for the most part from a policy of maintaining the superiority of the males in an age in which high education was not so common as now-a-days.

THE Paris Society of Historic Studies has offered a prize of one thousand francs for the best history of the French in India, from May 1719 to April 1770. The prize is too contemptible to tempt a respectable literary man to a work of research. But perhaps the Society will be content with a brilliant second-hand narrative. MACAULAY, however, was paid more handsomely for his Indian essays. Even as regards history on a wider canvas, the Society has been forestalled, unless any new sources of information have been unearthed. Colonel MALLESON, one of our Indian literary men, has accomplished all that the Paris Historical Society now seeks to have done. His History of the French in India, being a reprint of a series of papers in the *Calcutta Review*, is at once a readable and a reasonable and reliable record of the rise and fall of French Power in this Continent. Nor is there anything in the spirit of the author to repel the French. Colonel MALLESON shows none of the extreme Britishism which can see no good in any other country than Britain and sees only evil in the historical foe—France. Has no translation of the book yet appeared in French? Is it possible that the Paris Society is ignorant of MALLESON'S history, to say nothing of the articles in the *Calcutta Review*? There was another brilliant article on DUPEIX in the old *National Review* published by Chapman and Hall. Colonel MALLESON did not depend upon Orme and a fluent pen, but consulted the archives at Chandernagore and Pondicherry. It is scarcely creditable to the literary men of France that the remarkable Indian episode of their chequered national history should have been left to one of the enemy to record and to do justice to.

THERE is revolution in the Dacca Municipality. At any rate, the Board has taken a step of revolutionary vigour, in the teeth of their Chairman. Recently there was revision of assessment in the town. In due course, as the ratepayers realised in what direction the revision had generally gone, there arose a bitter complaint. But there was no organised movement and but few individual efforts on the part of the inhabitants to set themselves right. At last they bethought themselves of the procedure laid down by law for correcting harsh or unfair taxation. But by the time they severally challenged the revised assessment in proper form, the time allowed under the Act for such protests had expired. Accordingly the Chairman rejected the applications. There was great indignation in the city and a storm at the Board. The Commissioners were up in arms against their Chief. They called a meeting by requisition, catechised severally the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the Secretary, and passed a wholesale resolution authorizing the Chairman to "take and register all petitions of objections against re-assessment henceforth presented and send them to the Sub-Committee for decision both on the question of limitation and merit." As a city of bankers and tradesmen—*Shaoos*, weavers, shell-cutters, &c.,—Dacca is specially tender in the region

of the pocket. Still there must be strong personal feeling in the matter for the resolution to be passed unanimously, overriding the executive.

We outsiders, knowing our countrymen's apathy to the twelfth hour, feel that the Chairman was within law. It may be urged, no doubt, that knowing his people, it would have been more expedient for him to be more gracious, specially as the irregularity of himself, his Vice and his Secretary—all busy men with other avocations—in attendance at the municipal office may have prejudiced some at least of the applicants. Perhaps he would have been so gracious had he not been the busy man that he is. Possibly he would have made time if he could fix upon the point where to draw a line. In fairness it ought to be remembered—what unfortunately is too much forgotten in newspaper and other public criticism—that the point of view of the executive is inherently and for good reason different from the point of view of the general public. The Chairman has to carry on the work and to see to the ways and means. He can scarcely have the heart to encourage petitions for reduction of assessments. It is a grave responsibility to throw the door wide open to complaints. Probably the Chairman was staggered at the prospect of a whole city roused against a consummated arrangement, after all sorts of calculations had been built on it or contemplated.

We hope there is moderation and patriotism in the capital of East Bengal sufficient to settle the unhappy quarrel. Or else there is nothing but anarchy in prospect, and of course utter discredit.

WE are glad to find that they have started a fortnightly paper in Bengali named *Silchar* at the place of that name. Assam, not Madras, is the true Benighted Province of the Empire, and so far as the indigenous population is concerned, the metropolitan country is the most backward. A poverty-stricken ignorant people, without knowledge of their rights or without spirit to claim them, easily lend themselves either as tools or as victims of irresponsible despotism. In fact, the condition of the whole people of Assam is miserable enough and absolutely contemptible. The popular idea of the country as a Non-Regulation Province is of a land beyond the Reign of Law. Not that there is any absence of laws, but the laws are not all good, and, above all, there is an absence of proper magistrates to enforce them. Where immense powers are vested in the officers of Government, there more than usual care is required in the selection of the said officers. But as a matter of fact, poor Assam and such like unfortunates who need the best assistance they could get, have to be content with the benefit, doubtful as it is, of all the bad bargains in the Civil and Military Services in India. Such a country more than any other needs the salutary influence of a press. There are doubtless many good men and true in the Assam bureaucracy, but hardly many good and true officers. The best of mortals are apt to be demoralised under the conditions of life and work in such a sequestered corner. The Local Government is practically independent of control, while the principal agency which keeps men and public servants straight in other communities—the Press—is wholly absent here where it is most wanted. Hence our satisfaction at the introduction of this great instrument of public good at the capital of the Province. At present it is a small beginning—as small as possible. A fortnightly sheet would be a poor representative of journalism in the Presidency towns, but it may be adequate for the time to the needs of the Cachar backwoods. A more copious dose of letter-press repeated at shorter intervals might be too strong for the people and their rulers. This fortnightly medication may be allowed to establish a proper habit. By and by doctors will acquire more knowledge and confidence in their art, while the patient is reconciled to the new treatment. Great judgment and delicacy are required at the outset for ultimate success. Failing to exercise this caution, how many promising enterprises have ended in smoke almost as soon as they burst forth in flame!

It would have been more to the purpose had the new paper been in English, for then it would have more directly appealed to the European community, official and non-official. But in this it follows the rule of the genesis of indigenous journalism in India. The development of the Native Press has usually been from vernacular to English. In Bengal the first newspapers of the people were the *Chandrika* and the *Kaumudi*. The first effort in popular journalism was the *Sama-char Darpan*, started a few years previously, but that was the work of Europeans—the Serampore Missionaries—and even that was a diglot weekly, in Bengali and English.

AFTER all, the Egyptian Convention has collapsed. It is not ratified and Sir DRUMMOND WOLFF left Constantinople on the 15th.

THE Sultan has given a cock and bull story at the late banquet to the foreign representatives—by way of an explanation. He says the Convention was not ratified out of deference to strong Mahomedan feeling.

THERE is mischief in the air.

IT would seem that the Russian newspaper report of Herat as now in course of being put in a state of defence, although officially contradicted, is right after all. The *Statesman's* Simla Correspondent gives the names of Captains HOLDICH and TALDOI, Royal Engineers, as officers who are represented in the last Army List as having taken furlough on private affairs, but who are both at Herat—on no adventure for their own personal gratification. Private affairs, forsooth! Private, to be sure, in the sense of confidential—otherwise their affair is of high public—that is, state—character.

THE head of the Intelligence department of the Quarter Master-General, Colonel MARK BELL, V. C., is also *non est*. He is known at Simla as the stormy petrel—always to the fore in quarters where a *fracas* is to be expected or to be made.

WE learn that Colonel PRIDEAUX, Agent to the Governor-General with the King of Oudh and Magistrate of the Palace, has given information to the Registrar-General of the loss by theft of the King's seals with request to stop any documents bearing any of such seals attempted to be registered.

A RANGOON paper unearths a vile traffic in the heart of Her Majesty's Indian empire:—

"People of both sexes are shipped from Negapatam to the care of certain individuals here, and from all we can learn, the mode of procedure is as follows. There are several partners in the business, some of whom have their head-quarters in Negapatam, and have sub-agents to beat about the districts to obtain as many men and women they can; the younger the women the better. After a sufficient number of persons have been collected and a steamer sailing for this port ready, they are packed on board, their passages paid, and receipts taken from them, the women generally having to grant receipts for double and treble the amount the men have to pay. On arrival in Rangoon they are taken charge of by the partners here, who march them off to their depôts where they are detained and released only when the money expended has been paid by some of their friends or any one interested in them. The women, especially when they happen to be young, are readily redeemed, generally by men who are in no way connected with them and who are invariably of a different caste. In a word they are sold to the highest bidder."

That is shocking enough. Yet it is not so uncommon, after all, when one comes to think of it—at any rate to those who know. Something of the kind exists in almost every civilised land.

It is reported that the native community warmly sympathise with the object and scope of the Fund started by the Magistrate of Balasore for medical and other relief to Poorree pilgrims. And no wonder. Several gentlemen both Hindus and of other creed of rank and position have promised substantial aid. A meeting will soon be held at Balasore for consideration of the best means for giving effect to Mr. TUTE'S proposals.

WE read in the *Calcutta Gazette* page 644, Part I of the 13th July:—

"In supersession of the notification published at page 403, Part II of the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 9th March last, fixing the 18th April following for holding a by-election in Ward No. II of the Baranagore Municipality, in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, to elect a Commissioner in the place of Baboo Saroda Prasada Banerjee, resigned, it is hereby notified that the by-election in question will be held on Saturday, the 13th August 1887.

A. SMITH, Commissioner.

Commissioner's Office, Presidency Division, the 6th July 1887."

The Notification is most misleading—misleading of *malice prepense*, witlessly to be sure, but not unwittingly. They have taken a good deal of time about it. All the Talents of the District and the Division together with all the "superior persons" of the Secretariat have put their heads together on it. And here is the precious result of the combined wisdom of the Great Covenanted Civil Service and the Little Uncovenanted Civil Service and the Intermediate Statutory officers. Such as it is, there is in it neither candour nor tact. On the contrary, it is tainted with every element of unwisdom. The document

is a mockery and a farce—of a bad and contemptible kind. In trying to nullify a consummated action, the authors essay a task which by the law of our being we cannot conceive Divinity itself to accomplish.

The Commissioner of the Division supersedes the previous notification where he aims at quashing the previous election. His present notice suggests as if no action had been taken under the notification of March. As a matter of fact, the election was held on the 18th April last. There were two candidates and one of them was declared duly elected, who has hitherto been acting as a Commissioner. Objection was taken by the defeated candidate to this by-election under section 27 of Act IV (B. C.) of 1884, on grounds of irregularity on the part of the presiding officer. The objection seems now to have prevailed. But does the already elected Commissioner go out by virtue of this notification? True he was not *Gazetted*, but he has all the same been allowed to act as a Commissioner, and has so acted up to this moment. The omission of Gazette notification no more justifies the present step than the presiding officer's declaration of election in the face of the objection, warrants its supersession by the present Notification. This Notification is bad *ab initio*. The Government ought to start, if the question is still open, with the cancelment of the declaration and of the election of the 18th April. But then the question still remains—are the proceedings of the Commissioners valid in which the now superseded Commissioner took part? Any important vote given by the latter may certainly be lawfully challenged, and if successfully challenged, the ulterior consequences are enough to frighten one.

The moral of it all is that the Civil Service ought to be more instructed, and that, meanwhile, the Government ought to be able to guide its agents more carefully.

WE wish our countrymen in general might imitate the example of the patriots of Orissa. They are yet but a small band at the capital of the Province, but they are animated with a genuine zeal and their activity is most praiseworthy. They have the knowledge and skill to make a little timely and well-directed expenditure go a great way. They have functioned as a tolerable substitute for an influential Press. By means of telegrams to Calcutta they keep the superior and supreme Governments and the public informed of everything of moment that passes in their part of the Empire. By duly reporting, in the same way, the cases of oppression that occur in Orissa, they effectually keep the local officials straight.

During the week we have received no less than three telegrams on two days from Cuttack from three different persons. They are rather long and not having a large constituency in that Province, we are rather loath to give them so much of our space. But the matters touched upon are all interesting and deserving of notice, so we give way. We will commence with the one first received from Babu DENO NATH BANERJEE, a name familiar to the official world down South.

"The Privy Council Appeal No. 6 of 1878 was decided on the 27th November 1880. For authenticated copies of the decision and judgment, I (Dhenonath Banerjee) sent a man from Cuttack with expenses, of nearly Rs. 100, but was informed by Mr. Belchambers next year that it is not the practice to send down judgment to the High Court. I was a party on behalf of my minor sons to it up to the High Court. On this I sent two different applications to His Lordship the Chief Justice and Justice Prinsep. It is now over a year, but as yet no reply has been received. The dilatoriness of District courts has fully affected the Honorable High Court. His Lordship the Chief Justice will please enquire into it and remove grievances. It is prayed that orders be issued for saving the public from unnecessary heavy expense by sending copies of Privy Council's decisions and judgments for file with original records in all lower courts."

In wiring his individual grievance, the sender of the message contrives to lay bare a public inconvenience and the law's delay in general. We are not aware of the merits of the general question and, of course, unentitled to record any opinion. We are sure the matter will attract notice in the right quarter and receive due correction, supposing it to be needed.

BABOO DINANATH is the leading spirit of the patriotic Orissa band. No matter that he is by birth a Bengali Brahman—he is more Orissan and more to the purpose than any Orissans. He has the entire confidence of the people among whom his lot has been cast. We have been taxed in official quarters for giving so much importance to a crazy man as he is officially called. But the officials who have suffered from his "craze" for public good, are no judges. He is a re-

markable man in many respects and in more than one department, the world at large being judge. We quote from another telegram received the next day (the 21st) from another Cuttack gentleman, apparently a friend of the Baboo's :—

"Babu Denonath Bannerjee has received congratulations from the French Academy, for his philosophical work *Tatwanirnaya*, a copy of which was sent to the Academy. The book was well received and is highly spoken of."

We have not seen this *Tatwanirnaya*, but the French Academy understands its own business. As the leading society of learning, its praise is a possession to be prized and we are truly happy to find one of our countrymen's work receive its approbation.

THE rest of the message refers to general matters of public interest, to wit :—

"Great confusion concerning the Baladevji endowment in Kendrapara. The estate consists of heavy properties. One Ram-prasanna Dass started a criminal prosecution against Baboo Jagannath Bhromarbar, a committee member and big zemindar, accusing him of criminal breach of trust of Rs. 20,000 and sought production of accounts as evidence. These are said to have been burnt by the Baboo's men under his orders. Case *subjudice*, so refrain commenting. Jagannath Bhromarbar is well known to the public of Orissa. He was excluded by Mr. Currie for his known character from the honors Darbar at Cuttack. A civil suit is pending against him for removing him from membership and a criminal case against his beloved ministerial servant before Mr. Fraser. The cases are of great public interest. Large sums of endowment funds are being misappropriated in all directions. Government ought to adopt strong measures, and the public to move in right earnest. Great anxiety about delay in opening coast canal."

The third telegram came the same Thursday, from an Oorya gentleman :—

"Hindoo society is greatly shocked by sudden conversion of two students of medical school to brahmoism and throwing away of the sacred thread by two Brahman boys of the Cuttack Academy, one of the teachers of which is a zealous Brahmo. The ceremony was conducted in the Brahmo mandir by Baboo Madhoosudan Rao, Acharya of the Utkal Brahmo Samaj and Deputy Inspector of Schools. If Christian preachers are precluded from appointment in the education department there is no reason why active promoters or preachers of other religions should be there. Besides, Madhoo Baboo has served here for more than five years and must now be transferred, according to rules. We invite the attention of His Honour and of the Director to this matter, in the interest of public education in this backward province."

We have already given far too much space to Orissa and must reserve comments.

ANOTHER Pooree pilgrim ship has been overtaken by disaster—the *Mahratta* on her return passage with 700 passengers having struck in the sand. Every assistance was given and a great proportion of those on board were saved.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1887.

### GUBERNATORIAL DISSIPATION.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY is playing the king—piecemeal. Notwithstanding the advantages of a stately figure and a stately deportment, a ruler, who holds his receptions or Durbars in back-offices or verandahs, who confines as a pack of truant schoolboys those for whose investiture a Durbar is held, as several were confined on the last occasion, who lumps up his Khan Bahadoors and Roy Bahadoors all together and knocks them down with one blow of his honouring wand, much as the auctioneer disposes of sundries as one lot—as the Jubilee Khan Bahadoors and Roy Bahadoors were summarily invested *en masse* by a single speech addressed jointly to them instead of being as heretofore brought up robed one by one and invested and then spoken to—to speak of no minor details—can scarcely be allowed to do justice to the social and ceremonial functions of his office.

The Lieutenant-Governor's last hovering about, rather than stay at, the capital, was determined on Saturday last. As the palace Belvedere is under repairs, and he made use of the Viceroy's seat at Barrackpore, 18 miles from Calcutta, for residence, and of the railway to carry him to his office in town

every day, it was doubtless agreeable to him to end this sort of anomalous existence. The Durbar on the portico of the southern wing of the Bengal Office overlooking the site of the Black Hole, was its last visible act, and its fitting close.

From the Lilliput Levée in town, the Lieutenant-Governor glided easily to Little Podington across stream, on the Surrey side. At Bally, matters became truly microscopic. All proportion was reduced. Everything dwindled like things seen through the wrong end of a telescope. It must have taxed all his powers of accommodation to bring himself *en rapport* with the insignificance of the place, or rather occasion, and all the surroundings thereof, in order to play with decency the part of king on so very small a scale. If the British mind, specially the mind official, were not so governed by precedent, the most humble-minded Governor in his senses would scarcely think of making a state entry into a village-township like Bally. But the place has of late years produced a couple of ambitious sons, who can draw ; one is a native doctor who practises at a distance at Serampore, and the other, having feathered his nest at Patialala, whose Maharaja, MAHENDRA SINGH, before he drank himself out of life, made the companion of his private hours the Director of Public Instruction of his state, much as TIBERIUS created his horse a Consul of the Empire, has come home. Whatever the professional attainments or general accomplishments of these gentlemen—honourable gentlemen by favor of Viceroy or Queen—they certainly know the manners and arts, and sedulously practise the deeds, which recommend to the favour of officials. They early got the recipe for the famous British official eye-wash and learnt the secret of the seeming doing duty for the genuine and of a handful of the real stuff going a very great way as if it were an immense sackful. And they made the most of the advantage. They set up as public men and local patriots—of a pattern. Local Self-Government being ushered in in the land under official and, above all, viceregal auspices, they were too loyal not to espouse it with all demonstrations of joy and acknowledge it with warm expressions of profuse thanksgiving. When the attitude of the head of the Local Government became changed, they showed their versatility and power of sympathy by a ready and cheerful submission. To the subordinate local officers, they are simply charming. On the analogy of the proverb, A bird in hand is worth two in the bush, a small Magistrate at hand is worth half a dozen greater officials at a distance. And practically a Commissioner of a Division or a District Magistrate is more of a ruler and certainly can cause more mischief, than a Governor or Viceroy, just as a Pasha of a Pashalik is more worth conciliating, as at least more to be dreaded, than the Grand Vizier or the Sultan himself. So it may be imagined our Members for Bally would not leave a Divisional safrap of Mr. BEAMES's pronounced views under the impression of their being at all like impracticable zealots in the cause of Self-Government by popular election. In fine, they were too knowing to attempt the thankless and perhaps dangerous rôle of village Hampdens. They rather affected the Man of Ross.

This was just the character of all open to the Indian of activity and ambition, with the single exception of that of the reformer of indigenous society, which the official soul could contemplate with perfect complacency or admire and encourage without reservation. Indeed, they seize them with

avidity whenever a chance occurs for the opportunity of rebutting the popular suggestion of their being haters of the natives and demonstrating their superabundant good will towards the people. Thus it happened in this case. These energetic and wise men and their belongings became the marked favorites of the Bureaucracy including rank and file. The chief of the Sub-Division was their obliging friend, the Lord of the district patted them on the back and advanced their interests; the ruling king of the Division delighted to patronise them. Thus projects of public beneficence were floated. Dispensaries started up and schools of different kinds as at touch of wizard's wand and Town Halls were announced, as though all the wealth of the Cis-Sutledje States had been brought down and landed on the South-bank of the mouth of Baboo Khal and was unreservedly open to local purposes, unless Serampore were a Golgotha of a million skulls belonging to men who, before shuffling off the mortal coil, had, in payment of medical attendance during their last illness, duly willed away all their estates. As at once a cause and consequence of these works and reports, the officials were invited and went to the enchanted spot. In due time, the Commissioner himself—the Pasha of many tales—made his triumphal entry. The way was now tolerably clear, and the worthy trio had every reason to feel confidence in their powers and their stars. At last their ambition was crowned by the visit of the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir RIVERS THOMPSON. The services of the two citizens have not gone unrewarded. One after another, they have been raised to the Indian Knightage.

After the example set by Sir RIVERS THOMPSON, his successor's condescension has almost the appearance of official routine. Besides, the astute official head of Bally and his Vice got Sir RIVERS THOMPSON to recommend them and their village to the particular favour of his successor, as Sir STEUART said in his late address. That recommendation was backed by another powerful influence which his Honour did not mention. A living dog is worth more than a dead lion—witness the coldness with which the admiring friends and *protégés* who raised a statue to Sir ASHLEY EDEN in his lifetime have received the news of his death? A Secretary in office is more serviceable than a Lieutenant-Governor who has retired into the obscurity of private life. If Bally has lost a partial head of the Local Government in Sir R. THOMPSON, she still enjoys a patron in the able and accomplished Financial Secretary to the Government of Bengal. It is the policy of Bally's two sons of genius that has secured the necessary continuity of official interest in their little township and its prominent citizens. The partiality of the high officials and functionaries has no doubt been perfectly disinterested, yet the prudent representatives of Bally have done their best to offer a prize, if not a price, for it. Thus Mr. Commissioner BEAMES did not go without his Beames Hospital. The late Lieutenant-Governor did not go without his Rivers Thompson School. Mr. Secretary MACAULAY did not go without his Macaulay Girls' School. It was not only in deference to remembered *mantras* whispered in his ear at parting by his predecessor, that Sir S. went: probably also fresh *mantras* from others nearer had had their share in shaping his course. Certainly in coming all the way from Barrackpore to Bally, when his regular programme was in another direction, the Lieutenant-Governor did his best to immortalise his scribe in

the Financial Department, so far as country township or ancient Bengali village could stay the advancing flood of Oblivion engulfing our puny reputations of the day. In fine, Sir STEUART was invited to receive pooja as a Hindu deity and to preside at the distribution of prizes to the Bally Girls' School, named, in accordance with the Bally game, after the name—certainly honourable, but at which we are not aware that any world grows pale, either to point a moral or adorn a tale—of Colman P. L. (whatever they may stand for) Macaulay.

The distribution was of course a blind—the real object was to draw the Lieutenant-Governor, as Sir STEUART BAYLEY must have perceived if he is the shrewd man he is represented to be. He certainly did not suspect the game, or else he would not have let himself out so cheap. Had he, from some reason or other, waited another year, he would have got a better offer from the same place. Nor is it expedient to let it go forth that the Lieutenant-Governor is so oppressed with leisure as to be open to engagements as chairman at village school exhibitions, for schools are numerous as sands, and the bare-faced men, who descend to the trick of naming local institutions mostly on paper after officials having the ear of the head of Government, are the men to be encouraged. Sir STEUART's predecessors, great and small, all got better terms.

#### THE MEHERPORE WHIPPING CASE.

IN the Meherpore Sub-division, District Nuddea, Presidency Division, there is a wellknown lakelet or large *beel*, the property, in part at least, of Baboo NUFFER CHUNDER PAL CHOWDRY. Here, annually, on every Bengali New Year's Day, according to a practice once universal and still surviving in many districts, the villagers came and angled, holding a kind of festival. The Baboo, by way of asserting his fishery rights in the *beel*, hitherto open, let it out on lease. The public, even though they might submit with more or less grace to general landlordly pretensions, were tenacious of their privilege, sanctioned by custom, of fishing for the nonce on the Jubilee of the opening year. For some time since 1858, both sides maintained their rights as best they could without Magisterial help. In 1886, the lessee, before the 1st Bysack—the first month of the Bengali year—applied to the boy officer in charge of the Sub-division, Mr. LUSON, for protection against the annual invasion. An order was out on the police to watch. Notwithstanding, as was their wont from of old, a number of people—Hindus and Mussulmans—came and caught fish. A number of arrests were made and sent up for trial. Ten persons were convicted of theft and unlawful assembly. Of these one was sentenced to fine, four to 3 weeks' labor and five to whipping. Mr. LUSON was determined to put down the public pretensions against private property, if an extensive *beel* can be individual property, and threatened severe punishment in case the invasion was repeated. That order came up to the High Court and was quashed. In his zeal for private rights against custom, Mr. LUSON had omitted to enquire whether the accused had combined for an unlawful act or whether any fish had been removed. The customary right having been in a manner vindicated, the lessee again this year applied to Mr. LUSON for precautionary measures. A Sub-Inspector, and some Constables were directed to the place and order

issued on the neighbouring Punchayets to instruct their Chowkidars not to allow any fishing. These prohibitive measures failed of their desired object. About three thousand persons assembled at the prescribed day at the customary place prepared for the customary amusement, and, in the security of their own right, in spite of the Police prohibition, entered into the ceremonies of the day. The Police had special instructions and they could not be idle spectators. They, in their turn, amused themselves by wholesale arrests. They made 68 arrests. The 3,000 people, having no criminal intention, offered no opposition to the police. And the 68 were marched to the Police station. Next day at 6-30 P. M. they were brought up before the Magistrate with hooks and fish. He was in no hurry to try them but ordered no bail and accommodated them in the jail for the night. In the cool hour of the next morning he held a special court, his usual hour being in the afternoon. He was fully aware that the 68 arrested were in the *beel* in obedience to an old custom to enjoy a national festival, but they had committed the unpardonable sin of disobedience of his command and must taste the fruit thereof. Although the custom to fish in the *beel* existed, the Magistrate argued that "the custom is an immoral one and cannot be supported; it is not a lien upon the right of property of the Zemindar; it is clearly theft." And so he made a summary trial of them and convicted forty of them of theft and the remaining twenty-eight of attempt and abetment, and condemned those between the ages of 16 and 45 to 20 stripes, those under 16 years to 12 stripes in the way of school discipline, and those over 45 to hard labor for two months each. How the ages of the culprits were ascertained we are not told. The Magistrate must have used his own discretion in the matter. How he used that discretion we have a glimpse in the fact that the Hospital Assistant found that six of the delinquents were not in a condition to be whipped. They were then ordered the discipline of the jail. The case was taken up to the District Judge under section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Mr. WALLER, in his superior wisdom, admitted the unjustifiableness and severity of the whipping order, but in the inscrutable ways of Civilian rule, refused to interfere. The scandal of the order of the Magistrate and the refusal of the Judge to interfere has been set right by the High Court—the good Chief Justice and Mr. Justice GHOSE. Sir

COMER PETHERAM thus delivered the opinion of the Court:—

"In this case some sixty-eight persons have been convicted of stealing under these circumstances. It appears that in the neighbourhood where this transaction took place, there is a large *beel*. The land surrounding this *beel* belongs to one person, and he let the right of fishing in it to the complainant in this case for the sum of Rs. 500 a year. There is nothing to show that this *beel* is anything in the nature of a tank in which fish are caught and stored in any sense, but it is a natural reservoir of water which has come there without human agency and in which fish would naturally be.

That being the state of things, it appears that, on a particular day in the year it is the practice of the inhabitants of the neighbouring town and villages to go to this *beel* and catch what fish they can, and, for doing that, these 68 persons have been convicted of stealing fish and punished in an extraordinary manner; a large number of them were whipped there and then, or, at any rate, a few hours after, and a large number of them have been sentenced to two months' rigorous imprisonment.

Under these circumstances, no crime has, in our opinion, been committed. It is perfectly clear that the offence of theft could not have been committed, because the fish said to have been stolen were not the subject of any one's property; they were wild fish in a natural lake and until they were reduced to possession by being caught, no property could be acquired in them by any one, so that there could be no offence of theft committed by another person; and it seems to us therefore that these persons did not commit any theft, and that so far as the offence of which they have been convicted is concerned, it is quite clear that, on that ground alone, the conviction cannot be sustained.

In addition to that, as Mr. Justice Ghose reminds me, it is clear that there was no dishonest intention to take the fish, because whether such a custom could be legally established or not, on the Magistrate's own view of the case, these people went there relying on their supposed right to go there and catch fish. For both reasons, therefore, we are of opinion that the offence of theft was not committed by these men.

Then, Mr. Kilby argues that though the offence of theft may not have been committed, the offence of criminal trespass has been. He says that if these people had gone to the land of some one who had ordered them not to go there, they would have been guilty of criminal trespass.

The first remark that I have to make with reference to this argument of Mr. Kilby is, that it is not clear that they were directed not to go on the land by any one entitled to prevent them from going there, for the person who directed them not to go on the land, was not the zemindar, not the person who had a right to forbid them, but the person who had taken a lease to catch the fish. But, for the purpose of what I am going to say, I will assume that these people were rightly forbidden to go into the land, but a trespass under such circumstances is not a criminal offence for which the persons committing it could be criminally prosecuted and a criminal punishment imposed. Unless they went on the land for some of the purposes mentioned in Section 441 I. P. C., their going there would not amount to criminal trespass, and the purposes mentioned in the Section are 'to intimidate, insult or annoy any person in possession of the property.' As I said just now, what these people went there for was to fish in this natural lake; they did not go there to intimidate any one, certainly not to intimidate the person who was in possession, the zemindar, because he had no interest in it, and takes no interest in these proceedings now,—but they meant to catch fish, and their intention must be limited to that, and therefore, in our opinion, the offence of criminal trespass was not committed; and thus it remains that the only offence of which they have been guilty is an offence against the civil law by walking into a man's land when he has forbidden them to do so. That is not a criminal offence by the English law, nor so far as I know, it is a criminal offence in this country, and, therefore, there being no criminal offence whatever, the conviction must be set aside.

I should be very glad indeed if I could stop here as to what I have to say in this matter, but I must say, and I say it as seriously and gravely as it is possible to say anything, sitting here in this Bench, that this young Assistant Magistrate in inflicting such a punishment as he did, has done as much as any young man could do to bring the administration of justice into contempt. I think the idea of a young person in his position and with his experience inflicting the punishment of whipping upon 43 persons, boys and men up to the age of 45 years, for an imaginary offence of this kind, is one which it is impossible to deprecate too strongly; and I can only say that I do hope that this case will be a warning to him to exercise the discretion given him in dealing with these matters with the greatest care and not trust lightly to his own judgment and put matters beyond his control by inflicting a punishment which is of a serious and degrading character, and which when once inflicted cannot again be remedied. I will not say any thing more, but I hope that it will be a warning to him and to other officers in his position to use the greatest caution in dealing with such matters."

Having left no space this week we can only record that Government has chastised its young scapegrace with the tender sympathy of paterfamilias, recalling him to a sadder station under his seniors' eye, withholding his whip and summary powers of mischief for six months.

MOULVIE DULEELOODDEEN AHMED, the Deputy Magistrate who had been taken into the Hyderabad service, has, after a lingering illness, died at his post. He received from the Nizam the title of Ehteram Jung and was Subah of the Arungabad Division in the Deccan.

WE publish elsewhere the proceedings of the second sitting of the Marine Court on the *Sir John Lawrence* enquiry. The examination-in-chief of Captain NEUSTEIN concluded that day. His cross-examination by Mr. ORR commenced on Tuesday the 19th and was continued from day to day till yesterday. The Captain was under fire for four days continually. On Tuesday the enquiry was held in the Police Court and the remaining 3 days in the Port Commissioners' premises. Mr. LALMOHUN GHOSE, instructed by Baboo NEMY CHUNDER BOSE, appeared on behalf of some of the relatives of some of the lost. The investigation will be taken up again on Monday the 25th. Mr. REILY reiterated that his orders precluded him from travelling to "matters connected with the sanitation or kindred points connected with the state the vessel was in." At the same time he had no intention to burke or stop this enquiry in any way, in the face of the awful catastrophe. This was almost at the commencement on Tuesday. Next day Mr. ORR informed the Court that his clients had no wish to have the inquiry limited in any way, that in fact they courted the fullest light. Only they opposed the reopening of the report of the 28th November, on which there is already a Government resolution.



## MARINE COURT.

The Loss of the *Sir John Lawrence*.

THE SECOND DAY.—TUESDAY, JULY 12.

[Continued from page 346.]

W. H. Neustein recalled, stated:—At the time (1885) of the collision with the *Indore*, the *Sir John Lawrence* lost a boat. It was replaced by another good boat until we passed the survey, when it was removed shortly after, and an utterly useless one sent by Mr. Young's orders in its place. It was leaking so badly we had to hoist up one end to get the water out. All efforts to make it tight failed, and on attempting to land passengers with it when the vessel went ashore it filled alongside; and this boat passed subsequent surveys, the last being on the 25th October 1886. I was on board at that time. This was in the shoals at the entrance to the Dhamrah river, somewhere about the beginning of 1886 or end of 1885. We were on shore some four or five days. I landed a lot of the passengers, others were put on small steamers. We had over 1,000 passengers on board. It was on this occasion that this boat sank alongside. I had to hook the tackles on, or she would have gone to the bottom. This was a cutter; one of four boats. All the other boats were in good order. The passengers were nearly all Brahmins, and were complaining of want of food, and wanted me to put them ashore. I got some cocoanuts, which were scrambled for by the passengers. The end of the bowsprit was carried away in the same collision, and with it the band, bobstay, and bowsprit shrouds. These were never replaced. It is impossible for any vessel to be properly equipped without these. The stick was bent up on the edge of the bow plate without any support below. The bobstay is the key and support to all masts, more especially the raking masts of a steamer which, like the *Sir John Lawrence*, depends so much on sail. Removal of iron bulkheads was another matter. This tended materially to weaken the ship. I heard this from the Chief Engineer. I never saw them, but there were the places and marks where they had been fixed. She had a collision bulkhead. I mean a bulkhead between stokehole and engine room. She had also a bulkhead before the stokehole, another abaft the engine room, and one aft, a small collision bulkhead. The rudder braces are not there; but they ought to be there. These were more necessary because the rudder head was old and worn in the trunk bearings, and the pintles were old and patched up, and might have carried away at any moment. The inner keelson and the weight of the hatch ways, the angle irons on both sides had been long since knocked off; and therefore added to the weakening of an old ship.

The rails from the upper deck, which protected passengers from falling overboard, were so ill supported that it was not safe to lean against them from the weight of the gangway. The crossing boards into which the stanchions were fixed were so rotten that the screws would not hold. On one occasion a cow was rolled overboard, rolled right through, and was found hung, the poor wretch, the next morning, having had a rope round her neck. There was no wire netting on the rail; it was a rotten rope one. The windlass had been gradually getting worse and worse for some eight months. The vessel was nearly lost a short period before in consequence. It had passed the surveys in this condition. We were in a sort of local cyclone some five months before I left the ship, when I was unable to use the other anchor, one having been let go in eight or nine fathoms. We were dragged into about five fathoms. The more strain I put on the windlass the more it jammed. I could not use the starboard anchor with any safety. I ordered steam at 2 P. M., and if the wind had not shifted we should have been all lost. I was obliged to go to hospital; and many of the passengers were knocked about. I had to go to hospital in consequence of the exposure that night, and the anxiety I suffered. Mr. Agar, Principal of the Dacca College, was on board, and complained much of that experience. I understood when the Harbour Master took charge of the ship that the survey had been completed. The surveyor who tried the pumps must have been Mr. Bushby, accompanied by Mr. Young. The water passed away, the experiment came to an end, it being said "the ship being dry, you can't get any water out of her." The surveyor was satisfied, and said nothing more. I took the boxes out and found the leathers had gone; and then they were sent ashore. The pump was repaired and the pipe connected at my instigation. When I was mate on board I thought the vessel would roll over. I thought she was too topheavy, and rolled too much. I never was in a ship which rolled so much. This, I think, was owing to the extra weight of the deck, and iron beams and houses added. I could see a deck had been recently added. The vessel, if properly equipped, could have laid to and weathered any sea. I did not think her hull in a safe condition. I was ordered on one occasion not to go too near the surveyor, because Mr. Young had told me "you know too much about this ship, I will get you sacked."

Mr. Young is the Superintending Engineer of Macneill and Company. He got me dismissed on the 23rd, but I got the letter of dismissal on the night of the 25th, when the vessel was out of dock. There were several bad links in the chain. I indented for a new chain, but got none. I saw three surveys made of the vessel. Deck and hull surveys were made by Mr. Bushby. At the last survey

Mr. MacKellar came on board with Mr. Bushby. I believe the latter made all the nautical surveys. Mr. MacKellar did the engine room survey, assisted by Mr. Bushby. The second survey was carried on in the same way. On the last occasion Mr. Bushby did the hull and part of the deck matters on the 24th in dock; and when she came out into the river Mr. MacKellar finished the deck survey. Mr. Bushby went and saw the bluelights and rockets, &c., but during all the 13 months I never saw him go below the hatches in my department. I laid out lamps, buckets, fire engines and hose, &c., which he looked at. He had the boats lowered, so that he could see into them. He then went round the decks, and looked down the hatches in the main deck. He then went on with the engine room survey. His survey occupied 10 to 15 minutes, because everything was laid out for him. She was in dock then. When the ship was in dock during two surveys he went round the ship. He had the chains out on the first occasion, I did not see what he saw on the last occasion as I was ordered not to go round with him. Passengers, when they came on board, usually did so in boats. Captain Irvine attended to this business entirely himself. I was told not to take part in this. The passengers usually came alongside in the boats. In *puja* time there were several hundreds on board by 5 P. M. She was authorised to carry, in fine weather, 1,038 passengers, excluding the crew. By 8 P. M. the deck was generally so crowded that it was difficult to move about or clear a space opposite the hatchway to allow cargo in. At 5 P. M. a large boat used to come alongside; the police boat also lay alongside of it, but often when they arrived there were many passengers on board. The counting was simply a farce. The Captain had a staff of old hands, who were used to his way of doing business, with whom I was requested not to interfere. One man nominally stood at the gangway and was supposed to tally the men on board. But since passengers were taken in at all ports at which they came from, and by giving a small gratuity to the lascar on duty, he would allow them to pass the dinghy and creep through the port, hauling them up by the leg or arm. Invariably an order was given to the ghat serang not to send off passengers till 7 or 6 P. M., but there were generally some 30 or 40 boats moored on to the buoys, and by tipping the people on board they were allowed to come on board, all begging to be taken on board. They continued to come on board during the whole of the night. Nobody looked after the tickets till half way down the river, when the Captain and a man, a *porewallab* would come round and collect them. If 750 tickets were sold it would represent only some two-thirds of those who were on board. Invariably, the number of tickets sold was no criterion of the number who actually travelled. The passengers come up an ordinary ship gangway ladder. I never saw the police boat count them. The boat I noticed there till late at nights. The whole thing of counting the passengers was left entirely with the Captain. On account of the crowding on occasions, I have often, at the risk of my life, walked holding on to the awning, along the outer rail. I could not walk along the deck without treading on passengers. There were some 100 men to 30 or 40 women and children. The women and children were unable to move about. It was a scathing mass of humanity and filth. A ship loaded in that way, with a *puja* crowd endangers the lives of the passengers.

The President here intimated that this was not an enquiry into matters of sanitation or the question of carrying passengers.

Witness continued: The crowd on board endangered the safety of the vessel, in so far as it impeded the free navigation of the vessel and the movements of the crew in dirty weather. At Chandbally a stage was rigged at which the vessel was supposed to moor. Then a jemadar came on board, who would bring a board and piece of chalk, ostensibly to count them. But when the stage was clear the whole body would in a solid mass make their way out; so that it was utterly impossible to count a living stream of passengers who went past. When the excess number was very doubtful a number were concealed in the cabin, who were let out after the police had left. When we stuck on sandbanks many were often landed on shore to get home as best they could. On an average the excess numbers amounted to 1,300 to 1,400: this was on *puja* days. I don't think any more could have got on board. The freeboard of the steamer, when deep, was about 38 inches from the main deck, I think. The after part of the main deck was unprotected at the sides, and in heavy weather the seas broke in. I was 13 months on board, and during that time I have often seen half a dozen bodies thrown over between Diamond Harbour and Garden House Point coming back. That will not surprise you when I saw eight dying opposite the steamer on the bank. I have often seen people dying for want of a steamer to carry them back.

To Captain de Smidt: I do not know what quantity of dead weight she had in her. She frequently went to sea with perhaps 30 or 40 tons of cargo. She took about 600 or 800 maunds of coal to go and return. Her draught of water when light was 10-6 ft. The screw was fairly sufficient. We had three masts, and sails enough to take her into port if any breakdown took place. With the propeller disconnected she may have made two or three knots the hour. From here to Chandbally can be steamed in about 20 hours. There were two 400 gallon tanks in the between decks.

The ship was quite undermanned both in the point of crew and officers. In 1874 she had a full staff of officers. I have often seen the Captain asleep on the bridge from sheer fatigue. It is impossible for one man, the Captain, to do Harbour Master's, Pilot's, and Captain's work, as Captain Irvine did. He was often asleep in some of the most dangerous parts of the river. When deep she drew 13 feet, and when light 10-6 ft. Her boilers, I heard, had been removed; in her engines, I heard, and saw, the brasses were so worn that the packings were often blown up. Her condenser was patched in a most marvellous manner. The Captain had a barometer and aneroid; but the chronometer was, I am sure, irregular. There were seven openings on the upper deck. She had, I think, ten lascars, three scunnies, a serang, a tindal, a *plumbwalla*, two *topases*, a Chinese carpenter, a *masalebi*, two saloon boys and a butler. I do not know how many firemen there were. In case of shipwreck there were not sufficient men to man the boats. I had no spare life rafts, but six life buoys on board, and nothing else to interfere with the passengers.

Mr. Orr's cross-examination of this witness was, with the permission of the Court, reserved.

The Court then adjourned till next Tuesday the 19th.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

### RABID CRITICISM OF THE INDIAN NATION.

SIR,—The last number of the *Indian Nation* has some strong comments with reference to Dr. Bhattacharjya's article on child marriage in the "National Magazine." I, for one, cannot admit the justice of his criticism, and I consider it my duty to enter a strong protest against the censure passed by Mr. Ghosh. He says that some of the grounds on which the practice of child marriage is defended by the Doctor, are "in reality libels on Hindu society." But he ought to know that an ounce of fact is worth much more than a ton of sentiment. Human nature is everywhere the same. In every state of society, however advanced, men are naturally apt to go wrong, unless kept in check by the ordinances of law and religion and by social institutions which render it impossible for any one to go astray.

Dr. Bhattacharjya does not mean that Hindu boys and girls are more prone to sin than those of other countries. What the Doctor says is that, considering the natural weakness of human nature, men should not be placed in position where they might be tried by strong temptations. There may be persons who consider it more glorious to overcome allurements than to fly from them. But most practical men will agree with Dr. Bhattacharjya in holding that it is safer to keep aloof from temptations than to put our moral strength to trial like Donna Julia. If Dr. Bhattacharjya's defence of the practice of child marriage is a libel on Hindu Society, the greatest libeller is our divine Legislator Manu, who ordains that "men should not sit together in a secluded place, even with their mothers, sisters and their daughters." Not only the Code of Manu, but every section of the Indian Penal Code is a libel on our society. For the Code distinctly implies that men are capable of committing the crimes which are declared as punishable by it. The rationale of many social and political institutions cannot be explained except on grounds which at first sight must appear as shocking to us. They necessarily imply too low an estimate of our moral nature. But it would be folly to ignore them on that ground, when we are driven to go to the root of things. As our cherished institutions are being attacked on all sides by our denationalized countrymen and by foreigners who know little or nothing of our society, Dr. Bhattacharjya has done a great service by explaining the real grounds of the ordinances of our Shasters. Yours &c.,

A. HINDOO.

### THE CALCUTTA EUROPEAN PRESS ON THE HINDOO MARRIAGE SYSTEM.

SIR,—You are no doubt aware of the very narrow and extreme views your contemporary of Rancemuddy Gully holds on our marriage system. It is no wonder therefore that he should get angry with those speaking in favour thereof. Thus we see him ridiculing the *Statesman* for his advocacy of "such institutions as child (?) marriage and enforced widowhood." But the *Statesman* never advocated any such thing as "child marriage." What he advocated was simply *early* marriage. We are not a little surprised therefore to see that the responsible editor of a respectable paper should be guilty of such gross misrepresentation. Moreover, it has been clearly shown by the *Statesman* that early marriage has the sanction and authority of their sacred Scriptures, and that widow-marriage is therein highly censured. How then does the *Indian Daily News* speak against them? Surely, as a Christian, it does not become him to revile such time-honored, nay, sacred institutions, merely because they occur in India.

He does not stop here. In his opinion, "true patriots will have no reason to thank him (the *Statesman*) for such advocacy!" Exactly so! The "true patriots" are all on the side of the *Indian Daily News*, are they not? Like the *Statesman*, the editor of the *News* declares,

he too has an interest in our welfare. We should be very thankful to him for his concern for us, but we are afraid those who are profuse in their professions, are not always to be strictly depended upon. Certainly, we would prefer pure and genuine to unintelligent, if not interested, interest, or mixed and mischievous sympathy. Well may our countrymen exclaim—"Save us from our friends!"

This is how he shows his sympathy for us:—"Our attention has been drawn to the case of a marriage that recently took place between a Brahmin, whose age is 58, and a young girl of 11. Mark the difference! Can anything be more repulsive to civilised notions?" We thoroughly concur in this remark. The sooner such things are done away with the better. But he can scarcely say that his society is free from the evil in question. For what did Johnson, Addison, and others of his distinguished countrymen do? In their society, these are rather matters of daily occurrence. In the present case, however, the Brahmin has married a bride of his daughter or grand-daughter's age; but Johnson, the great Cham of English literature, married one of his grand-mother's age! Which is more "repulsive to civilised notions?" We say, therefore, "Physician heal thyself!"—Yours &c.,

KISSORY NATH MITRA.

\* \* \* Our Correspondent might refer to a much "superior" case—more to the point, indeed absolutely clinching—which the Jubilee has doubtless brought to most men's minds—the first marriage of our Gracious Sovereign's mother to the Prince of Leinengen fully twenty-eight years her senior. But perhaps he thought that the *J. D. N.* was not remarkable for loyalty.—E.D. R. & R.

### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 19th July 1887.—Mr. A. L. McGavin, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Julpigoree, is transferred to Pubna, and is appointed to have charge of the Serajgunge subdivision of that district, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. H. W. C. Carnuff, or until further orders.

Baboo Khetter Gopal Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purneah, is transferred to Nuddea, and is appointed to have charge of the Chooadanga sub-division of that district.

Baboo Bhobotosh Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on furlough, is posted to the Sudder station of the Purneah district.

JUDICIAL.—The 16th May 1887.—Baboo Amrito Lal Chatterjee, First Subordinate Judge of Sarun, is allowed leave for one month and fifteen days, under rule 1, section 73 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Jadu Nath Das is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge of Sarun, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Amrito Lal Chatterjee, or until further orders, on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Small Cause Court Judge and Subordinate Judge of Pubna and Bogra.

### THE CALCUTTA TRAMWAYS COMPANY LD. EXTENSION OF SERVICE.

#### Wellesley Section—

In consequence of numerous requests the service of cars on this section has been extended from 8 P.M. to 8-30 P.M.

The last car for Clive Street now starts from the Park Street terminus at 8-30 P.M., and leaves Clive Street on the return journey at 9-10 P.M., taking transfer passengers from the Chitpore and Shambazar last up cars.

The last car for Sealdah will leave Park Street at 9-45 P.M., and will meet the last car for Shambazar at Bow Bazar junction at 10 P.M.

#### DISCOUNT TICKETS.

Books of these ticket vouchers are now on sale at all the Company's Depots and Goomtees.

They will be found especially useful to parents sending their children to school and for issue instead of cash to native servants, &c.

The prices are as follows:—

1 Book containing 50	4 pice tickets	...	Rs. 3 0 0
1 "	" " 6 " "	...	" 4 8 0
1 "	" " 8 " "	...	" 6 0 0
1 "	" " 10 " "	...	" 7 8 0

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

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## The Week.

SIR AUCKLAND COLVIN goes on leave on the 4th proximo. Mr. J. WESTLAND, the Financial Secretary, takes up the portfolio of the Finance Minister, while Mr. E. T. ATKINSON, Comptroller-General, acts the Secretary.

WE forgot to mention that we have received another instalment of Rs. 10 Ten for the family of the late HARIMOHUN MOOKERJEE.

THE *Retriever* and the Sir John Lawrence Relief Committee have paid through us a further sum of Rs. 75 seventy-five to the poor Brahman HEM CHUNDER BHATTACHARJEE, who lost his wife in the pilgrim vessel and who was the bread winner of the family.

THE suit against the Dacca Municipality for refund of the sum expended on the reception of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON, concluded on the 20th after a hearing of 12 days. Judgment has been reserved.

THE Copyright Convention between Great Britain and Italy of the 30th November, 1860, which was to terminate on the 31st December 1886, has, by a Declaration signed at London, December 28, 1886, been extended so as to fall in with the Convention for the creation of an International Union for the protection of literary and artistic works which was signed at Berne on the 9th September 1886.

HIS Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer upon Nawab Sir ALIKADR Bahadoor of Moorshedabad, K. C. I. E., the honorific title of 'Ihtisham-ul-Mulk Rais-ud-Daula Amir-ul-Umara Mahabat Jaung.'

A TREATY of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation between Her Majesty and His Highness the SAYYID BARGHASH BIN SAEED, Sultan of Zanzibar, has been signed and ratifications exchanged at Zanzibar August 17, 1886, and is published in the *Gazette of India* of the 23rd July 1887.

THE Hon'ble J. B. PEILE fills the place in the India Council left vacant by the death of Sir ASHLEY EDEN. India is spared the counsels of Sir RIVERS THOMPSON or Sir ALFRED LYALL. Mr. PEILE remains in India till the arrival of Sir CHARLES AITCHISON.

THE Afghan Boundary Protocol has been signed. The exchange of ratifications is not yet complete.

IN proof as it were of the necessity of the measure, no sooner the Irish Crimes law was passed, than almost the whole country was proclaimed.

THERE have been heavy floods in the Southern and Eastern Division of the Central Provinces; two bridges on the Warora-Chandra road have been damaged and traffic interrupted. At Hinganghat the greater part of the old town was under water. On the Nagpur-Chattisgarh Railway several hundred feet of embankments were swept away, about four miles on the Nagpur side of Nongaon. There was much damage to property, but no lives lost.

As an instance of Chinese Trade unionism, Dr. MACGOWAN reports—

"The Gold Beaters' Union of Soochow, the Athens of China, some time ago wreaked a terrible vengeance on one of their craft. Gold leaf was needed to an unusual amount for the Emperor. One of the craft represented to the magistrate that if he were allowed to take a number of apprentices the work would be greatly expedited, and having obtained permission, he proceeded to engage a great many apprentices, violating thereby a law of the trade which disallowed an employer to take more than one apprentice at a time. His conduct infuriated the craft, and the word passed round 'Biting to death is not a capital offence.' One hundred and twenty-three of them rushed on the miserable man, each taking a bite. Death soon relieved the victim of fiendish rancour. To make sure that none shirked duty on that occasion, no one was allowed to quit the shop whose bloody lips and gums did not attest to his fidelity. The murderer who took the first bite was discovered and beheaded."

THE reserves of the Turkish army have been disbanded.

THE Editor of the *Rajputana Gazette*, Moulvi MURAD ALI, has been fined Rs. 600 for defaming the Ajmere City Kotwal DIEN DYAL. The *Gazette* reproduced an article from a Delhi paper in which the Kotwal was charged with having misappropriated a bag of coin being the unclaimed property of a deceased mahajan. The Assistant Commissioner Mr. BAYLEY found the charge unfounded and ordered the fine.

THE Chenab Canal was opened on the 9th instant. It is intended to irrigate the Rechna Doab—a portion of the high land between the Ravi and the Chenab. It will carry 1,800 cubic feet per second during the khariff and an average of 500 cubic feet per second in the rabbi. It will command an area of 880 square miles, and will irrigate annually an area of about 230 square miles.

THE *Englishman* translates the following about Russian troops from a Russian paper:—

"The number of troops, including both those in the standing army corps and those living in Cossack territory, amounted on the 1st of January 1885 to 3,436,040 men. In the course of that year 317,526 men joined and 243,468 left. Thus on the 1st of January 1886 the strength was 3,510,028 men, being 2,370,919 in the regular army corps, 604,280 peasants, etc., consisting principally of discharged soldiers, and 534,899 of the ecclesiastical order. In addition to these numbers there is an army corps of 9,972 men among that part of the Cossack population from which the Krasnoya and Irkutsk sotnias are organised for local cavalry service in Eastern Siberia. The number of Schools in the army is 1,564, or 54 more than that of the past year, and the number of teachers has increased to 71,000.

The amount of crime has steadily decreased year by year, so that in 1885 the average of criminal charges was but 1 in 57 as against 1 in 51 in 1884. Charges of theft in special show a great decrease, these numbering altogether 4,292 in 1885 as against 5,250 in 1881. Similarly the number of cases of insubordination and corruption have decreased, being 2,171 in 1885 as against 2,236 the preceding year.

Discipline of the strictest kind is the foundation of all military life, and consequently there will always be a large number of charges for petty violations of it, but on the other hand the graver infractions of discipline, and indeed the possibility of them, are getting rare. With us the army is as it were a school for the nation, a school of morality, discipline, order, and education. With us as a nation, the respect for the property of others is but imperfectly developed, so, if in spite of this, we observe a decrease year by year of the charges of petty theft, it shows not only an improvement in the moral stamina of the army, but also testifies to the impression made therein by increasing education."

MR. LARPENT, Deputy Accountant-General, Punjab, and late Registrar, Punjab University, has obtained permission to prosecute for libel a Lahore bi-weekly newspaper. We sympathise with Mr. LARPENT who comes of a respectable old Indian family, but he will scarcely gain

by an appeal to the courts. Perhaps he has been forced to this course. The newspaper is, we believe, the *Tribune*.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD has resigned his place as a junior Lord of the Admiralty, in consequence of a technical breach of etiquette in signalling a private message from on board the Queen's yacht during the Jubilee Naval Review. We wish the honor among high officials in India were as high.

IT is a well-known European aphorism that History repeats itself. They take pretty good care to vindicate its truth, on many important occasions. Thus, in the way that King THEEBAW was done out of crown and kingdom and driven to exile, was enacted an oft repeated historical play. There was nothing new either in the plot or the development of the story. The epilogue like the prologue was upon old lines. The CLIVES and WATSONS, the WATTSES and SCRAFTONS of the Bengal Revolution of the last century, had their puny counterparts in the present business. Even after the establishment of a new civil government, history goes on repeating itself. We read in the *Times* of Bombay :—

If the representative of the *Times* in Burmah is to be relied upon, there is being carried on in Mandalay a system of land-jobbing by officials that demands the immediate attention of Government. This correspondent brings forward the charge—for the facts he puts together amount to a charge—that officials are being allowed to purchase valuable lots of Crown lands on much more advantageous terms than are granted to the general public. The latter are not allowed to purchase any land they may require outright, but have to be content with leases that are short and subject to conditions. The favoured officials, however, are allowed to secure land at a moderate upset price, all open competition being practically prevented, and they further receive permanent and transferrable titles. In this way "several public officers," writes the *Times'* correspondent, "some of them holding subordinate positions, one being merely a probationer, have recently acquired valuable sites." These sites are not required for residences, so that the only interpretation capable of being put on such transactions is that, in view of the steadily rising value of land in Upper Burmah, the lots are being secured simply to be resold at a profit. This is a very grave and serious indictment. In light of the notorious Madras case, we take it that land-jobbing by officials is contrary to law, but even if the fact were otherwise, the granting of any special facilities or specially advantageous terms to Government officials would be flagrantly unjust. Under the circumstances the story told by the *Times'* correspondent seems impossible of belief, but it appears in the leading paper, and must be promptly answered by the Government of India.

So, the reign of jobbery has commenced in Ava-Burma, as in Bengal after a similar change. And it is this *Times of India* which gives the particulars that would throttle the Native Press for hinting that all is not gold that glitters and that there might be as good fish in the vasty deep as the unfortunates hooked and brought up to land.

THE *Times of India* thus compliments the native army :—

"One of the most curious things about the native army is the almost total absence of crime in it. This statement may surprise some of our readers who have probably not given the subject much attention, but it is a fact, nevertheless. Drunkenness is practically unknown, the sepoy being the most abstinent of men. Cases of insubordination are so rare that they may almost be said not to exist. Desertion, at any rate so far as the Bombay army is concerned, is confined to the small class of recruits enlisted in Rajpootana, some of whom run away in the first months of their service, when they have found that the tempting promises of the recruiting havildar as to high pay, immediate promotion, etc., are not founded on fact. Of course, in every regiment in the service there are black sheep, but in the native army they are happily few. The feeling of the regiment is against them. Their own comrades have no sympathy with them. And the feeling that military justice is prompt and stern, and that punishment dogs the heels of crime, undoubtedly keeps down the unruly element among sepoys, and represses the criminal impulses of men who have led lawless lives before they became soldiers, and who not uncommonly return to an irregular mode of life when they leave the service. We have always thought it a pity that no return is published showing the annual amount of crime in the Indian army. Such a return would be of great interest to the general public, and it would throw a flood of light on the inner life of the native soldier. It would show the faults to which he is most inclined, but it would also bring his virtues into strong relief. It would show him sober and obedient, docile and respectful, rarely giving way to crimes of violence and averse from the grosser forms of misbehaviour."

The fact is, the native soldier is usually a gentleman.

RECENTLY they held a meeting (10th annual) of the Society for Protecting Ancient Buildings, in the Old Hall of the Staple Inn, Holborn. Mr. WILLIAM MORRIS presided. From the report it appears, that between the years 1876 and 1885 no less than 2,577 churches were restored and 819 rebuilt. During 1886 151. 18s. 1d. had been received in

annual subscriptions, the total amount of the receipts being 384. 11s. 9½d. Mr. FREDERIC HARRISON read an address on the "Sacredness of ancient buildings." He

"compared the treatment that ancient statues, paintings, &c., received at the hands of the public with the treatment accorded to ancient buildings. People stood by and applauded while the latter were gutted, scrubbed, re-faced, completely transmogrified. Yet if any one proposed to 'touch up' the Venus of Milo and the Elgin Marbles, or the paintings of Titian and Leonardo de Vinci, the whole of Europe would ring with indignation. Yet ancient buildings were individually unique; they were incorporated with their surroundings and with the peoples of the country in which they stood; they were in a truer sense the definite production of the society in which they grew and of the civilization which had reared them than any paintings or statuary could be; they were the accumulated work of many minds—the execution of succeeding generations; in them the civilization of whole races was concentrated and petrified; into them thousands of men had passed their souls; and they were living works, instinct with organic life and growth, and having an evolution of their own. To destroy ancient buildings, said Mr. Harrison, ought to be made a public crime."

HERE is a case of abduction in high life which is now the talk of the European Continent :—

"The person carried off is the Cuban heiress, Mercedes Martinez Campos, who in addition to a dowry of 300,000*l.* had the charm of youth and beauty. Her beauty was that of a Creole, wonderful grace and suavity predominating. Her husband was a smart young officer of King Alphonso's Guard, the son of Marshal Serrano. The Marshal was not satisfied with a religious marriage in Chapel of the Spanish Embassy, but caused a civil one then, then practically indissoluble, to be solemnised at Paris mayoralty. The reason of this became apparent when in less than a year Mercedes Campos sued for a divorce. The Court of Rome was favourable to her but the Civil Tribunal of the Seine declared itself incompetent to declare marriage null and dismissed the case. Since the Naquet Bill became law the lady has obtained a divorce here, and her marriage has been nullified. At Rome, she resumed her maiden name, and was able to recover a part of her fortune. Mademoiselle Campos used to live in quiet but elegant style with an elderly lady in the Rue Christophe Colombe. Yesterday they were both walking in the Bois de Boulogne when a party of men, two of whom were masked, gathered around them. Mdlle. Campos was seized and thrust into a private carriage, which was driven off with her and the masked persons at a rapid pace. It was all done so rapidly that the other promenaders did not notice the incident. There were, however, about ten women, evidently, accomplices, who surrounded the lady companion and abused her in a coarse manner until the carriage was out of sight. There were neither Policemen nor rangers near. When the companion, Mdlle. Louise, realised the situation, she sobbed and wrung her hands, which attracted the attention of the bystanders. In the meantime the women slipped away. When Mdlle. Louise recovered her presence of mind she went to a brother-in-law of her employer, the Count of Casa Monte, to tell her story, and he at once took her to make reports of it at the Prefecture of Police and the Spanish Embassy. The theory now is that the abduction was not accomplished by Captain Serrano, but by a French aristocrat of high pretensions and an empty purse, who hoped that to avoid the scandal of the abduction being bruited she would marry him with the consent of her relations. There is another theory that she herself was privy to the scheme for carrying her off in order to force her family to consent to a love match. Being legally a spinster and a Spaniard, she will not be of age until her twenty second year. The domestics in her household disappeared on the day of the abduction."

THE Madras Government defines a Zemindar as "a person holding land under a *sanad* of Permanent Settlement." In Upper India, the Zemindar is a humbler being than in the Madras and Bengal Provinces.

FOR a Jubilee amusement, the Chinese of Singapore were given free license to gamble two days. Nothing would have been more agreeable to the pigtails.

DR. HERTZ of Paris has developed the Telephone into Micro-telephone thus :—

"The micro-telephone does not offend the eye, nor does it take up much more room than the shield of an electric bell. In appearance it is an electric bell-shield of a slightly larger size. There is a button to be pressed, which causes a bell to ring. When the person at the other end touches the button then the two are prepared to converse. In order to do this, the shield, which forms the receiver, and is attached to the instrument by a wire of any length, is removed from the wall, and applied to the ear; the part exposed is a disc of carbon, and any sound uttered at, or near it, is conveyed to the opposite extremity. There is no need to remain close to the disc; on the contrary, one may remain a yard away from it, and speak in an ordinary tone of voice at that distance. The instrument is so sensitive that sounds are conveyed by it which would not be transmitted over the wires by ordinary instruments. The battery-power need not be greater than that for actuating electric bells. In buildings fitted up with electric bells it is easy and inexpensive to introduce the micro-telephone. When this is done, not only is it possible to summon a servant, but also to inform him as to the purpose of the summons."

## FIRE and sword !—

"A late number of the *Wehr Zeitung* contains a terrifying account of a new explosive—pyroxiline—invented by Guisón of Magdeburg. One shell from a 15c. Krupp (6 in) will destroy any vaulted structure; one torpedo shell from a 21c. siege-mortar annihilates a magazine of any strength; and a bombardment of 10 or 12 hours grinds the best modern fortress to power. The pyroxiline can be used for light guns as well. 'Villainous saltpetre' is mere seidlitz powder compared to this."

ON the 30th May, Naib Dewan Bahadoor SHAM RAO NARAYAN made penance and performed purification according to the Shâstras, for having by order accompanied his master across the sea. He, however, only went half way to the land of the Yavans. What will be the extent of the penalty required for setting the Holkar right?

## Editorial Notes.

THE *Sir John Lawrence* Enquiry was continued this week from Monday to Friday. Mr. KILBY on behalf of Government was present throughout to conduct it, and Mr. ORR on behalf of Messrs. MACNEILL & Co., to watch and to cross-examine witnesses. But neither Mr. LALMOHUN GHOSH nor Baboo NEMY CHUNDER BOSE who instructed him to appear on behalf of Mr. O. C. MULLICK and others who had relatives on the lost vessel, entered appearance. The witnesses examined were Mr. JOHN LEECH, a former Chief Engineer of the *Sir John Lawrence*, Mr. JAMES OLIVER THORPE, third engineer of the same vessel in 1885 and 1886, Mr. HENRY LINDSAY, a foreman, Rivers Steam Navigation Company, Messrs. MACNEILL & Co., being the agents, Mr. NEIL MACDOUGALL, foreman carpenter who was in the service of Messrs. MACNEILL & Co., Mr. GEORGE ADOLPHUS ROBERTSON, Superintendent of the Port Police, SHADEO TEWARY, corporal of River Police on duty on the steamer, Baboo BHOOBUN KISSEN GHOSH, a surviving relative of certain passengers on the ill-fated steamer, and the assistant Harbour master Mr. LAWLESS MATHEWSON. The first four witnesses and the last spoke about the condition of the vessel, the Superintendent of Police spoke generally, among others, about the mode of counting passengers by boat-loads, and that in the absence of landing stages, it could not be done satisfactorily. The corporal swore positively that he was all watchfulness without intermission and without sleep from 6-30 P. M., to 5-10 A. M., and counted 735 passengers. Here is the conclusion of his evidence:—

"The passengers began coming in at about 8-30 P. M. I am quite sure that no passengers came on board before that time. It became dark on that date after 7 P. M. I did not see 40 first class passengers who came on board before 8-30 P. M. Only one dinghi at a time came near the big boat. Only one dinghi load of passengers are allowed to come on board at a time. I counted the passengers myself, and had no constable to do the duty at any part of the night. I was in the big dinghi, and was there all the time. There were 735 passengers on board that night. By 3 P. M. I had counted all, and the complement was complete. Eight or ten dinghis full of people who had tickets were refused admission. I prevented them going on board. The passengers all went away after. I found that the full number were on board. Many of them were clamouring for admission, and after the full complement was on board the captain ordered the ladder to be lifted up. Before 3 A. M. no boats were turned away. Before that time only a few passengers were coming. The tally was complete by 3 A. M. I am surprised to hear that a boatload of 20 people with tickets were turned away at 9 P. M. This is not true. It can't be true that by 9 P. M. the steamer was so crowded that no one was allowed to come on board. I did not go on board when the tally was complete. When ships come from Chandbally the passengers are not counted in that way. I know that there were 735 passengers on board as I counted the boatload counting them by tally. As a rule, these boats only bring their proper complement, but occasionally a boat brings an excess number, and it is arrested. In counting I make a tally and marks. The excess I mark in figures. If six passengers come in a boat I write down the figure six. When vessels come from Chandbally there is no accurate accounts taken of their numbers. It is not possible to count accurately. We approximate the number of passengers from the number of dinghis, and ask the dinghi-wallah what number each boat carries. The passengers land from ladders, and they also come down any other way. The dinghis first come alongside the ship when it is fastened to the moorings. The police work is very hard. I am on duty all day, and still have to go often on duty at night. When I am on night duty I am off duty the whole of the next day. I have not seen any dead bodies taken off the vessel when going out, but I saw one taken off. If any passenger dies outside port that body is thrown overboard. All the passengers mostly embark at Koilah Ghat."

Baboo BHOOBUN KISSEN'S evidence we quote in full. He was not cross-examined by Mr. ORR:—

"I took 33 tickets for the last voyage in the *Sir John Lawrence*, 10 first class and 23 tickets for servants. I went on board just before dark. I with four women went in one boat, and one third class passenger, and one native woman servant. I went from Koila Ghat. When I got

on board the captain read my pass. I went on board by the Howrah side of the ship. The captain lowered the ladder for us on the portside, the vessel facing north. We went on board, 45 in all. We all went up by that ladder, of whom 34 went for Chandbally, and 11 remained behind. I did not notice any police boat on the starboard side. I came round on the other side because I had made arrangements with the captain to have the port ladder lowered for me. I did this to avoid the rush. I went on the spar deck, and then into the reserved cabin in the saloon. I remained on board till gunfire. I left at this time, and saw some of the passengers on the vessel. I was standing on the poop deck, and walked forward to the place where the deck passengers were. I saw them on both decks. There were a large number. They were all sitting side by side, without any space between. There was no space to allow of a third man to sit between any two; in fact, their shoulders were rubbing against one another. They were all huddled together, as tight as they could pack, but not so tight as to die of suffocation. I tried to walk across them, but could not do so. I am speaking of the upper deck but I peeped through the ladder to the main deck and it was crowded as much as the other deck so far as I could see. There was not much of a smell. The captain was trying to relieve the crowd on the upper deck by compelling some of the passengers to go on the lower deck. He was pulling some by the hands and pushing others down. The majority were women. The proportion was about three women to two men. I saw no children. I am connected with the Sobha Bazar Raj family. All the time I was on deck I can't say if passengers were coming in. There were still crowds of dingis after I left. We who returned came back in the same boat.

To the Court.—I saw no police to stop me going by the port side of the vessel."

The court was occupied three days with Mr. LEECH. We give elsewhere the proceedings of the first day. The Enquiry will be resumed next Monday.

DISASTER upon disaster! Ill fate pursues the Pooree pilgrims and Messrs. MACNEILL & Co. To replace the lost *Sir John Lawrence*, the Company chartered the *Mahratta*, but she foundered on her way to Calcutta on Saturday forenoon. She is said to have been driven by a rush of commencing flood-tide while passing the Eastern Cut of the James and Mary's bar and thrown on the Mugraputty lumps and capsized. Throwing up the contents of the upper deck, without taking another turn, to balance herself, if the official account is to be believed, she began to sink in the sands. Fortunately, it was no complete disaster like that of the 25th May. There was assistance at hand. A country boat was passing by whose assistance was impressed for rescue of the passengers. Two steamers, the *Euphrates* and *Ariot*, soon after arrived and rendered help. Many were saved. How many have been lost can only be ascertained, if at all, in an Enquiry, which we hope will be ordered. The number of passengers on board are given at 215, all of whom are said to have been saved, except one woman and two children. The second engineer is also missing. Here is, however, a personal narrative of a survivor taken down at our office, which gives a different version.

GORA CHAND—a passenger from the *Mahratta*—states:—"We left Chandbally at about 10 in the morning of Friday last. We anchored at Sagor at midnight. We again started the next morning at daybreak. At about 8, the vessel was reeling like a drunkard, though the sea was not rough. On enquiring of the lascars, they explained. The engine has gone bad, therefore great force is being put, the vessel will soon reach Calcutta. For two hours the ship continued in that state. We felt the *Mahratta* moving faster. When she neared the mouth of the Damoda, the vessel moved faster still while crossing its water. Half an hour after, the vessel struck on a sand bank. Raja Baboo's vessel and Dwari Baboo's vessel had gone ahead of us. The three vessels started from Chandbally at the same hour. The *Mahratta* arrived last at Sagor. They again started together but the other two vessels passed us and we were left behind. During the two hours above mentioned the vessel reeled intermittently at every 10 or 15 minutes. I and four other companions were at the foot of the middle mast. The vessel suddenly stopped and we heard a wheezing sound. She at once turned on her right side, the masts touching the water. She immediately nearly regained her position, or else we would have been drowned.

"Many fell into the river. We five ascended the mast. We were stunned and wet. We clung to the mast for two hours. We were then rescued by a boat coming in and were landed ashore. There were altogether, I should think, 500 passengers, namely, about 300 in the lower and 200 in the upper deck. Many prefer the lower deck at this season for protection from the rain. We were landed at about 1 P. M. We rested for one hour and helped ourselves to guavas from a tree there. Then we began walking and came to a Bengali gentleman's house at about dusk. He treated us kindly, gave us food and clothes. Next day (Sunday) we started northward and arrived at



Garden Reach at 11:30 in the forenoon. I had Rs. 80 in a bundle which I lost in the vessel. The vessel was not crowded. We five were without food since 7 A.M. of Friday to 9 P.M. of Saturday.

IN Wurzburg, a University student from Breslau with a revolver has been arrested, on suspicion of conspiracy against the life of the Emperor WILLIAM. What sort of teaching goes on at these places of education, we wonder! How miserable must be that soul which could dream of extinguishing the stately presence of the grand old man—the Kaiser—the father of his people and grand-father of Europe's royal race! Is the ghost of the classical SAVAGE LANDOR occupying, under some Teutonic name, the chair of Casuistry and Political Philosophy at Breslau? The late Lord HOUGHTON has, in the compass of a few pages, left on record an admirable likeness of this ill-tempered, stubborn, pugnacious literary man of wealth. But he has not mentioned among the doings of his hero the proclamation by which he made himself notorious in 1858-59, in which he offered valuable prizes for the killing of certain sovereigns there named. Yet the author of this imbecility and madness was no lunatic. He was an author of eminence—a good poet and one of the great prosists. And at no period of his life was his reason helplessly clouded as COMTE'S. Who shall explain the anomaly! It is certainly beyond us Asiatics. All we can say is that where there are such teachers, there must be learners. Hence the breeds of Socialists, Internationalists, Reds, Nihilists, &c.

A SMALL Cause Court bailiff, E. B. GEORGE, prosecuted Baboo SHAMA CHURN LAHOREE and two others on charges of wrongful restraint and confinement. He had been to the Baboo's house to execute a warrant and wanted to march into the Zenana without the notice required by law. The Baboo resented the invasion, and he was therefore summoned with his men to answer the charges. The Hon'ble Syed AMER HOSSEIN has found both the charges against the bailiff. The magistrate finds that "the bailiff, apparently under the instigation of the decree-holder, had chosen to transgress not only against the express provisions of section 271 of the Civil Procedure Code, but also against his usual practice." "With regard to the charge of wrongful confinement, I am of opinion that it is equally groundless." We hope the Judges of the Small Cause Court will take notice of the conduct of the bailiff.

THERE were giants in those days, we say speaking of former times; and that the life of man during the patriarchal and pristine periods extended much beyond the present space of three score and ten or thereabouts. These beliefs were long unhesitatingly cherished until critics in our day sought to discredit them. Cases were cited in vain to confirmed sceptics like Sir CORNEWALL LEWIS and Mr. THOMS. The latter set to inquire into the subject and published a big book to prove that no authentic cases of centenarianism were on record. But here we have going the round of the press the instance of the French actor who died in 1826 at the age of 142 years. As late as in his 130th year, in 1814, he took active part in a masquerade. As for stature, a gigantic human skeleton has been exhumed at Herculanum.

THE Queen-Empress has received many curious presents on the Jubilee. One is a widow's cap sent by the widowed Queen-regent of Spain, made of priceless old Spanish lace with an embroidered veil at the back, and a pearl diadem in front, the jewels being embroidered on the lace by Queen CHRISTINA herself. And this is regarded in Europe, as it is spoken of in the British Press, as "a widow Queen's gift of sympathy to another widow Queen."

It is no doubt good of the Spanish Queen to send such a costly handiwork of her own on this occasion. It is a fine specimen of jewelled tailoring, worthy of the wardrobe of the wearer of the Kohinoor, and an appropriate offering from the representative of the European Power that first discovered and carved out empire in the Indies to the present sovereign of India. But is not a laced and gemmed cap a queer token of vidual sympathy with one in the same state? Rulers, even those of so-called divine right, are men after all, and wives are wives, and widows, widows. In Europe, they are admiring the rich old lace and the fine jewels and the skill which has been employed upon them to produce a thing of beauty, and royalty and aristocracy envy

the taste of the Queen regent in devising such an appropriate gift for the occasion. Without speaking from a princely Eastern point of view, it seems to us that, even in lands where the loss of husband does not entail on the wife any severity of protracted mourning, costly jewellery or gorgeous apparel can scarcely be held to be a proper present for any widow, however exalted in rank. The mourning of aristocracy and royalty may be costly, but it should be the lookout of the mourners to choose their own attire, according to their feeling and judgment. It seems to us to involve an indelicate officiousness to thrust any mourning apparel on any one. In the case of a lady like Queen VICTORIA, who has mourned her loss with a depth of genuine Hindu sentiment such as is not always observed even in Hindu society, there is the greater risk of giving offence.

Of course, Oriental notions are radically different. Such a mode of showing sympathy could not be thought of. Such offering as the one under notice, so far from being acceptable, would be taken as a dire insult. Such insult was taken when Sir GEORGE CAMPBELL, with a strange ignorance of native society in such an Old Indian, sent a present of a gorgeous brocaded robe and costly bracelets to the widow-Maharani SURNOMOYEE of Cossimbazar.

ON the 3rd June, Emperor WILLIAM laid the foundation stone of the Baltic and North Sea Canal, at Haltenau, a picturesque village near Kiel, at the eastern mouth of the Eider Canal. The Emperor looked well and the weather was real Queen's, now Kaiser's as it may be called—doubly Kaiser's in the present connection. They order these things decidedly better in the Fatherland. These representatives of the Indo-Germanic stock show a gooily share of the imagination and sensuous feeling of the East whence they originally came. Thus, at Kiel, they raised a pavilion for the Emperor looking like a gigantic ironclad, rising out of the plain, with masts and rigging, and a large effigy of Germania, more than three metres high, for the figurehead, and two Cupids holding in their hands the German Imperial Crown, fixed on the stern. In front of the bow of the ship was erected a small canopy under which a chair for the Emperor was placed.

The scene was gaily decorated with crimson and golden hangings, instead of the everlasting bunting so dear to British eye. The proceedings were appropriate, lively and impressive. A strong wind was blowing which might have spoiled everything by proving too much for the aged Emperor. But the wind was not the gouty ill wind of England that blows nobody good. At any rate, the Kaiser was equal to the weather and the occasion. Like the rest of the royal party, he came in an open carriage, protected by a cloak over his uniform. But the cloak was soon doffed. His Majesty descended without help and walked firmly with uncovered head, helmet in hand, bowing, as he proceeded, to the crowd as they vociferously cheered. Under the canopy, he did not use his seat, but remained on his legs all through.

The Canal will be a work of national importance, as well economically as militarily. It will be a great help towards defending the coasts against blockade, if not an absolute preservative against any attempt of the kind, by connecting as it were by a short cut the two German seaports and naval stations, Wilhelmshaven in the German Ocean and Kiel on the Baltic Sea. Of course, the German fleet will no longer be obliged to run the gauntlet of the Danish straits in the event of their being mined with torpedoes, as they surely will be mined in time of war.

This is not the sole recommendation. The proposed work has a philanthropic importance. It will be the means of saving thousands of lives by preventing the numerous shipwrecks that take place every year in the difficult zigzag navigation of these seas.

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—Female Complaints.—On the mothers of England devolves much and serious responsibility in securing for their daughters robust health; frequently, alas! thoughtlessly sacrificed by culpable bashfulness at a particular period of life, when all important changes take place in the female constitution, upon the management of which depends future happiness or misery. Holloway's Pills, especially if aided with the Ointment, have the happiest effect in establishing those functions, upon the due performance of which health and even life itself depend. Mother and daughter may safely use these powerful deobstruent remedies without consulting any one. Universally adopted as the one grand remedy for female complaints these Pills never fail, never weaken the system, and always bring about the desired result.

WE cordially welcome to the field of Indian journalism Baboo AMRITA LAL ROY. He is no novice in the craft, though a new comer in the Indian Press. In lands beyond the sea, he fledged his young pen. He is a remarkable man with acquirements and experience and a will of his own, who only waits for opportunity to bloom into greatness. He is still quite a young man, but he has already seen the two worlds—the old and new. After some years spent in Great Britain, he was impelled by intelligent curiosity to visit the great Republic of the West. He had dabbled in printer's ink before in England, but more for exercise and for pleasure than profit. In America his funds failing, he managed to live by his pen. This is a fine example of self-reliance in a Babooling in a strange country. It is, at the same time, proof of no ordinary talent. As one of the political writers of the day in America, and besides as an intelligent foreigner—a coloured man without any African taint—he came in familiar contact with many notable men, and had unusual facilities for observing life in the freest and most advanced country and for familiarising himself with forms of activity and organisation unknown to the jogtrot and still semifederal society of Europe. He was connected with some of the most respectable papers of New York, and before returning home he finished in the leading American review the *North American*—an article on India which has become historical.

Of that article we spoke when it appeared. We could not endorse either its opinions or its spirit and so passed over its subject-matter. Yet we were not altogether sorry that it was written. It was not merely in the spirit of quizzing that we recommended its perusal to the ruling Europeans. It was a party pamphlet embracing all sorts of sharp criticisms on the administration. It was likely to do good in the same way as LEDRU ROLLIN'S tremendous onslaught on England, opened the eyes of many Britons to the canker in their political and social system. As was natural, the essay in the *North American Review* created a great sensation. Not only was the author vilified, but his entire countrymen were abused in the most merciless way. Thus the defenders of Bureaucracy themselves justified the publication. For, it was the truth of the essay that supplied the sting. But the paper was crude in doctrine, and violent in language, and well had it been, specially for the writer, that it had never been written. And so it would have been, had the writer been a free agent. That he was not. The essay was a thing produced to order—an American attack on England respecting her government of India by the hand of an Indian depending at the moment on American help. Not that there were in it no traces of his genuine views, but they were distorted out of proportion and exaggerated into something very unlike. The original draught offered had been returned by the editor as too favorable to England. The poor Indian submitted to the dictation as the only way open to him to purchase the means for returning to his native land.

This is a strange episode in a remarkable career. The essay has naturally caused some prejudice against the writer. But we are all frail and the creatures of circumstances, and we trust Englishmen will have the generosity to forgive a gifted young man a literary offence, such as it is, committed some time ago in a distant land. We hope he will have fairplay in his new career. We can assure the public that he is a person of great modesty and eminently teachable. His character was shown in the frank retraction of an attack he had hastily published in his first issue.

He now appears in the character of *Hope*. This is a paper for the million, as he calls it. He means to make it the model of a popular journal. It promises well. It combines letter-press with occasional illustrations. It is readable and instructive, and its tone is not rabid. We trust the taste of the constituency will not get the better of the editor's prudence. Just now, at any rate, *Hope* is most hopeful—full of hope, in every sense.—The office is in Okhil Mistry's Lane, Champatolla, Calcutta.

SIR AUCLAND COLVIN has received a quarter's leave to go home. As he is to succeed Sir ALFRED LYALL, who retires in the coming November, he must embark directly, so as to return in time after the three months. He leaves on the 3rd, we believe. It is a prudent step this short leave-taking, and good on every consideration and to all sides. From November for five years, there will be no leaving the post of duty, if possible, and it were pussillanimous, not to say barbarous, to neglect the only opportunity to hand. This leave will not only recruit his health but give him another opportunity of breathing

the bracing atmosphere of life in free and enlightened England. Thus doubly will India, specially Upper India, be benefitted by the holiday that Sir AUCLAND is about to take.

SIR AUCLAND COLVIN has not been lucky in his office of Indian Chancellor of the Exchequer. The four years of his incumbency have been years of anxiety to him, because years of anxiety and trouble to Government. Nevertheless, he will be able to face the India office and politicians at home with courage and easy cheerfulness as one who has done his duty under difficulties. Reasonable men will allow that he could not well help imposing an income tax any more than he could help the long brewing bad blood with Burma or the steady advance of Russia. Indeed, in England the people regard an income tax as a matter of course. Even in India, people are beginning to recognise that in the face of the formidable external dangers of the Empire, the measures of the Finance Minister were about the best that might be taken. If provincial resources have been docked to the indefinite postponement of local reforms, and fresh burdens have been imposed, war has been provided for and the Empire enabled to show a bold front to Russia. And is it not something, for all our sacrifices, that in the event of the inevitable war on our Western frontier, we have had thirty-thousand men strong added to our army, and that, against famine, we have had two railways completed in Madras,—while the Indian Midland and the Nagpur-Bengal have been taken in hand, and the two Bolan Railways finished? At the same time, the heavy drain on account of Burma has been quietly met. And all these great results attained without a deficit, and in the face of a frightfully adverse exchange. That difficulty reminds us that Sir AUCLAND has compelled English attention to that subject of vital importance to Indian finance and Indian prosperity.

PANDIT AVINASH CHANDRA KAVIRATNA has done and is doing much to bring about the Revival of old Hindu Medicine, by the publication of the texts of the ancient Rishis and their commentators with translations into the popular languages of the day. It is an arduous undertaking in which he is engaged—one for a state department or a publishing society rather than an individual. For a poor scholar like the Pandit, it seems a preposterous ambition. But he has already accomplished a great deal—much more than Government or any other private agency has ever attempted.

When the Sanskrit College was established by the British Government at Calcutta, great difficulty was experienced for want of books for the class of medicine, the literature in that branch of knowledge being yet unprinted and the MSS. themselves being rare and mostly imperfect. Accordingly, measures were taken to collect and collate them for printing and publication. After the labours of many years, all that the Council of Education did was to issue an edition of Sushruta in 2 vols. if we remember aright. Sushruta and Charaka are the two oldest and highest authorities in Hindu medicine. The Government Council of Education contented themselves with only Sushruta—Charaka was not even attempted; at least nothing was published. Even the edition of Sushruta contains only an imperfect text of the original without any scholiast or commentary. Now without the continual help of gloss or commentary, these old authors are scarcely intelligible, their dicta being usually delivered in pithy aphoristic verse. Charaka remained uncared for, and so unknown that even to educated ears the name called up associations of only the swinging festival. At length, in our day, the work of introducing the Indian HIPPOCRATES to the modern world, was undertaken by Dr. MAHENDRALALA SIRCAR. The difficulty of interpreting these primeval sages of science may be understood when we say that, after much research and many years' labour, Dr. SIRCAR has given a few chapters of the original text with an English translation and occasional notes of great value. His execution was, of course, superior, and it is a great pity that he has not been able to complete the work.

Pandit AVINASH CHANDRA'S labour will now be better appreciated.

He commenced with Charaka, which he completed in two thick royal octavo vols. of nearly 1500 pages. The work contains the Sanskrit text with a free translation in Bengalee embodying the suggestions of the commentaries.

He next commenced a medical serial in Bengali intended to diffuse among the people the knowledge of medicine of all schools, chiefly the Hindu system and the modern European systems of Allopathy and Homoeopathy, with a view to harmonise them, if possible. In this he

is of course assisted by some well-known physicians, Allopathic and Homœopathic. The attempt to bring these diverse systems into harmony is ambitious and its success may be doubtful, but meanwhile the value of the *Chikitsa Sammilani*, as a popular medical periodical and guide to the thousands of practitioners for the masses and to families in domestic treatment, is unmistakable. This Magazine is going on, this being the fourth year. Lastly, he took up Sushruta of which he first published the Sanskrit text and commentary with Bengali translation in parts. After several parts were issued, he was pressed by people out of Bengal to issue a Hindi edition. This he took up before he had finished the Bengali. Twelve Bengali parts and six Hindi are out. And now he is exhausted, his health injured, his substance wasted, his practice suspended. For want of funds, he finds the undertaking of his heart stopped.

We hope such a *finale* of work of such usefulness and importance so gloriously begun, and hitherto pushed with such extraordinary energy, will not be permitted. The state and the wealthier classes of the country, who are proud of the intellectual achievements of Indian intellect, should come to the rescue.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1887.

### THE OTHER PICTURE.

A TALE OF MODERN BRITISH CHIVALRY.

THE vagaries of a native sub-divisional officer, exposed to public condemnation by a metropolitan English newspaper "more native than the natives themselves" in its anxiety for the good of the governed and its wont to expose the oppressions of authority, have furnished the text upon which another metropolitan English daily contemporary preaches a sanctimonious sermon crying down all natives in general and the educated natives in particular. Many of our readers must have read the sermon in question, and to those who have not done so we recommend the perusal thereof, as it does us always good to know what others, whether foes or friends, think of us.

We may say at the outset that the outrage in question is one heartily condemned by the native community. The *Statesman* instinctively gave voice to the abhorrence of us all when it denounced the disgraceful proceeding of the Deputy Magistrate against the poor Hindu widow. The "old and respected Deputy Magistrate" who came forward to vindicate his brother officer is only a victim to the sympathetic blindness of official clannishness, which, now and then, attacks the highest officers of Government. In justice to this friendly Deputy, it ought to be remembered that he did not act in his executive or any sort of official capacity. An irresponsible advocate's anonymous appeal at the bar of public opinion to screen a brother in trouble, is not to be compared with the blindness of high functionaries, who, in official acts and communications, cannot see things in their true light and stand forth to shield their brother officers from merited rebuke or punishment for official misconduct at the hands of Government.

We have ourselves no sympathy for anonymous informers, and we think it is the usual practice, not only with European but with all officers of experience, to throw them into the waste paper basket. Nevertheless, there is no law or circular of the British Government prohibiting magisterial action upon anonymous petitions, and because one native Deputy Magistrate has wrongly taken action upon such materials, there is no reason to stigmatise a whole race as unfit for public

employment. We should not be surprised to hear that anonymous petitions have been acted upon by European officers. Of course, it is wrong, whoever does it, when private men are affected, and we shall be glad if a special law were made prohibiting any action being taken against any person by any magistrate or police officer upon the bare strength of an anonymous petition.

Nor should it be forgotten in this connection that the subordinate executive service is a curious mixture of good and bad elements. In every country and community, there are good men and bad men, wise men and fools, men of sobriety and men of intemperance. The aim of all systems of public service is to devise means for eliminating the bad from the good, and ensuring the exercise of responsible function by only the best men available. Now, if the native community had its way, the appointments in the Deputy magistracy would be given away upon merit and not upon favor. A fair field and no favor—that is the motto of those who are proud of being more English than many Englishmen in India. But the civilian bureaucracy is unwilling to part with such a wide field of patronage which offers a golden opportunity for rewarding the services of a whole host of *protégés* and flatterers. These men make it the business of their lives to perform regular reverential pilgrimages to the antechambers of the *Burra Sahibs* of every grade and these are the men whom Bureaucracy delighteth to honor. A service so recruited, even in part, cannot but have its due proportion of bad bargains side by side with many men of average abilities and some of exceptional abilities who would be ornaments to any service in the world. All human machinery is faulty, but it is undeniable that we hear of more vagaries of the native executive than of the native judicial service where patronage is more circumscribed by qualifications, and unless the much-needed and long-asked for reform in the mode of recruitment for the former service, is completely and heartily carried out, or at least the authorities are prepared to dispense patronage with a singleness of aim at the public good, the moral sought to be drawn from the tale of native submagisterial vagaries loses much of its point.

The same paper insinuates that the Europeans have a monopoly of "the ordinary courtesy, extended by 'all men, worthy the name of men, to all women, whatever their station in life may be,' and insinuates simultaneously that the Bengali race, having emerged into the light of civilisation without having gone through the curriculum of chivalry and the struggle of fighting and bleeding for civil liberties, &c., must, of necessity, be wanting in the courtesy due to woman, and so forth.

As to whether this is a universal truth, let the following picture answer. Within the last two weeks, the Chord Line up-mail which left Howrah one night, contained a second class carriage, one compartment whereof was reserved as usual for ladies, and the other open to passengers in general without sexual limitation. The ladies' compartment was full, the adjoining one had three occupants at first, namely, an educated countryman of ours who occupied the left berth and two real *Sahibs* whose appearance, dress and conversation bore unmistakable evidence to their British citizenship, rich in the heritage of Magna Charta and the Petition of Rights. These two occupied the right berth, a steel portmanteau belonging to one of them reposing in all its brand new yellow glory upon the middle seat and taking up half its length. So

far there was nothing to complain of. The two Sahebs had the right to occupy two seats, and if they chose to gregate on one and place their luggage on another, they did not inconvenience the third passenger. As the train however was about to start, a lady and a gentleman stepped in. They were attired in the European costume, which in Railway phraseology is the exclusive index of gentlemanliness and gentleness, and they evidently belonged to an Asiatic primitive Christian race, the Indian colonists whereof have, concurrently with a rise in material prosperity, bloomed into exotic drape and perfume. They came unencumbered with impedimenta of any description and took their seat on the already encumbered middle bench. Soon the train started, the English passengers brought out their bedding, and spread out themselves full length on the right seat and the upper bunk respectively. The Baboo reclined on his seat, but the middle-seated lady and her male companion sat up straight. Of course, had the company consisted of Eastern barbarians, they would have talked of each other's seven generations and enquired impertinently of each other's affairs, but it was not the correct thing for Western etiquette and British taciturnity. Of that, however, we do not complain. But certainly these British gentlemen ought to have made an offer to remove the huge steel trunk which swallowed half the space of the middle seat. No sign however appeared of such an intention. After a short while, the lady felt tired and inclined to sleep, and could do so only by bending down and pillowing her head in her companion's lap, her feet still continuing on the ground—a posture evidently uncomfortable and adopted only as the lesser of two evils. Still the courtesy of the English for womankind in general remained unmoved and would not induce either of the true Sahebs to provide a place for the lady, or even to remove the steel trunk and thus allow the lady and her companion the true use of the middle seat to which they were entitled as a matter of right. Seeing their plight, the barbarian Baboo was moved furtively to enquire how far they were travelling, and on being informed that their goal was a rather distant one, he followed up with an offer to unfold the left upper bunk for the lady's accommodation. This was declined, on the ground that the lift would be too high, whereupon the barbarian, further emboldened, now offered to give up his own seat for the lady and transport himself to the upper bunk,—an offer which was gladly accepted. Finding also that the lady was absolutely unprovided, he ventured again to offer a spare pillow which also was readily accepted. The passengers then settled down all to slumber till the end of their journey. The courtesy for the other sex was certainly here all on the Eastern side and none on the West. This Baboo, a member of an independent profession and a patriotic advocate of social equality, who is neither better nor worse than hundreds of the class which is an abomination to our BAYARD of Hare Street, (or is it of the High Court?) was certainly more English in his courtesy to the lady in question than her white-skinned fellow Christian travellers of the masculine gender.

The moral which we draw from this is, that no generalisations or sweeping denunciations affecting the credit of a race or class, can be properly based on solitary instances.

#### MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT IN PRACTICE.

If I again take up my pen to write about the scandals of the Mofussil Municipalities, even at the risk of laying myself open to the charge of washing the dirty linen in public and of being a scandal monger, my object is not to adorn a tale but to point a moral. I have already done with Santipur, that miscalled city of peace which has ever been torn by internal dissensions with their inevitable demoralization and where the 'monster' has not been content even after eating its man, the first Vice-Chairman, together with his guide, philosopher and friend, I mean the Head Clerk, the latter, having, by the way been disgorged since. Thanks to Government that the Santipurians have been spared the infliction of an elective, or as the 'School Master in Council' would have it, an elected Chairman, which would, I am afraid, have been the last straw that breaks the back of a camel. Not to mince matter, time was when I was one of those who regard unrestricted elective franchise as the panacea for all the ills that flesh is heir to, and the remark that the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds let fall in the Council chamber in justification of the inclusion of Santipur in the 2nd Schedule made my blood boil. But if the question were now put to Philip Sober whether Reynolds was warranted in holding that "the condition of Santipur was certainly such that it would be in the interests of the town that the power of electing the Chairman should be left to Government," the reply would be an unhesitating Yes. So Mr. Reynolds did not after all give a dog a bad name and then hang it, nor is it quite correct to say that in his arguments there are neither rhyme nor reason, as alleged by a writer in the *Indian Mirror*. But how has Local Self-Government fared at the neighbouring town of Kishnagur, brimful of men of intelligence, education and public spirit, men at whose feet the people of Santipur can sit for years together, and who received Pandora's box in the shape of elective franchise so long ago as 1872? Not a whit better than at Santipur. The office of Chairman of the Kishnagur Municipality literally went abegging after the general election of '84, almost all the big swells of the town declining it. Poor Rai Bahadur! he did not, however, succeed in avoiding the greatness which his colleagues desired to thrust on him, there being a lamentable lack of leisured men among them. A strong and straightforward man of high position, mature age and large experience, he was energetic without fuss and both safe and sound. He saw everything with his own eyes, heard everything with his own ears and did everything with his own hands and the occupation of the Vice-Chairman and the other Commissioners was all but gone. But let the Chairman discharge his duties ever so well, at whatever sacrifice, "there is no escape from the jealousy of the rivals and mischief-making of the irresponsible," as has been truly observed in the columns of *Reis and Rayyet*. As for avoiding giving handle to the designing, I will, with your permission, quote here a story from *Æsop's Fable* (and it will, I make no doubt, bear repetition) which will show how that is out of the question:—A wolf meeting with a lamb astray from the fold resolved not to lay violent hands on him but to find some pretext which should justify to the lamb himself his right to eat him. "Sirrah, last year you grossly insulted me." "Indeed," bleated the lamb in a mournful tone of voice, "I was not then born." Then, said the wolf, "you feed in my pasture." "No; good Sir," replied the lamb, "I have not yet tasted grass." Again said the wolf "you drink of my well." "No," exclaimed the lamb, "I never yet drank water, for as yet my mother's milk is both food and drink to me." On which the wolf seized him and ate him up, saying "Well, I won't remain supperless even though you refute every one of my imputations."

It was not long before the Chairman and his colleagues were at loggerheads. Even before the ink in which the resolution electing him to the Chair was recorded, was dry, oh! wicked speed,—Rai Bahadur was, with strange consistency, run down as a round man in a square hole. The indignities thrust upon the poor man, and the persecution to which he was subjected, cannot be conceived, much less described. A commissioner, it I am not greatly mistaken, so far forgot himself as to tell the venerable Rai Bahadur to his face at a meeting of the Committee, "It was I who kicked you up to your present position and I will kick you down." But the most nauseating thing has yet to be told. Jadu Baboo received per parcel post a pair of cast off and worn out shoes by way of reward for his unselfish devotion to his duties. But the Vice-Chairman of Santipur beat him hollow, for, over and above the palatable thing referred to above, Sarat Baboo received numerous letters black-guarding him and containing filth and abominations. As the last recourse, however, some of Rai Bahadur's colleagues thought of removing the incubus. But the removal of a Chairman of Rai Bahadur's position was no laughing matter. Moreover, there was a rub, such removal requiring the sanction of Government and Baboo Jadoo Nath being in the good books of Sir Rivers Thompson. In justice to the Commissioners, it must be said that, like Alexander the Great, Rai Bahadur held that "heaven cannot support two suns nor earth two masters." Nor did he carry in his right hand gentle peace to silence envious tongue. To make a long story short, he at last threw up his appointment in sheer disgust to make room for

Baboo Ram Chundra Mookerjee, a good man and true no doubt, but not a leisured man. He may be a host in himself for aught I know, but as Vice-Chairman of the Road & Cess Committee, Honorary Magistrate and Government Pleader of extensive practice, he has, I fear, already too many rions in the fire, but then the Kishnagur men know better what they are about.

Now about Goberdanga, where the *argumentum ad baculum* had to be recourse to in order to *sumjao* the Chairman. The first elected chairman of this puny Municipality was Pandit Srees Chandra Bidyaratna, a retired, Deputy Magistrate, who was the first to show the courage of his conviction by marrying the first Hindu widow after the passing of the Widow-Remarriage Act of Bidyasagar in 1856. But Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands, to do---and the designing village idlers, who had been cudgelling their brains ever since his accession to the chair to devise some means of getting rid of him, could in no time make his place too hot for him. The quiet and inoffensive grand old man was no match for his formidable opponents and was only too glad not only to abdicate the chair in favor of Babu Kesub Chunder Mitra, L. M. S., but to commit what you have termed Municipal suicide. Poor Dr. he was waylaid, roughly handled and cased of his watch and chain into the bargain. I write of course subject to correction. Wincing under the lash of the *latials*, the medical chairman thanked God that his Lord Mayorship had not cost him dearer and was impressed with the truth of the adage, The cobbler should stick to his last. The Irreconcilables have now got a very tough man to deal with in Baboo Girija Prasanna Mookerjee, the new occupant of the chair, and their occupation is gone for who the d---I will dafe beard the lion in his den?

Babu Hara Gobinda Sen, Professor of English, Rajsahee College, is a gem of the first water. That his election to the chair should have been hailed with universal joy goes without saying. But "be thou as pure as ice and as white as snow thou shalt not escape calumny," and for the simple fact that one of his sons-in-law happened to be Municipal servant and he did not crucify him for what was after all a trivial irregularity, what a tempest was raised in a teapot! Reference had to be made to the Legal Remembrancer as well as to the Advocate General as to the interpretation of certain sections of the Municipal Act and elucidation of certain points which are clear as the noonday sun. Thanks to the peace-makers, better understanding has since been brought about between the chairman and his colleagues.

Without noticing in detail the proceedings of the Baidyabati Commissioners, two of whom had to be removed for disgraceful conduct, one being a scion of the historical Raj family of Sarafully and V. C. to boot, who has made himself scarce with a cheque for Rs. 500, I will direct my attention to the Suburban Municipality of Baranagar. Whoever knew Babu Saroda Prasad Banerjee could not but congratulate the Baranagar Commissioners on their election of him to the chair. He had been the soul of the Municipality for years. He had "a heart to resolve, a head to contrive and a hand to execute." There was not a Commissioner who was worthy to unloose the shoelatchet of Saroda Baboo so far as ability, accomplishment, devotion to and capacity for work were concerned. His election was a walk over---a matter of course. But unfortunately the Commissioners were in indecent hurry to fasten quarrels on him and they succeeded. Baranagar was ablaze. The Nestor of the Anglo-Indian Press having nothing better to do began to play in the hands of the unscrupulous opposition by adding fuel to the fire. "Forget and Forgive" was not in the Dictionary of the Irreconcilables. They would have "His High Mightiness of the Chair, to use a pet expression of the *Indian Daily News*, hanged, drawn and quartered. For a while, every thing went against him. The Local auditor, who suffered himself to be made a cat's paw of by the opposition, managed to unearth several irregularities. 'Tis pity, 'tis true and pity 'tis true that Baboo Saroda was something of an autocrat---that it was not in his nature to be kept in leading strings by the *Huzzlings* of the Corporation. But there was no harm in humouring him a little and bearing with the little weakness he had. Extend indulgence to an opponent, the opposition would never. Without generosity, untouched by pity and unrestrained even by etiquette, that lowest code for keeping man in the straight path of right---they were determined to see him fall, and fall he did---a martyr shall I say? But the troubles of Baranagar were not at an end with the 'municipal suicide' of Saroda Babu. Worse calamities were in store for it. A by-election was held to elect a commissioner in the place of Babu Saroda Prasad Banerjee who himself was candidate but could not be returned, the election---which has, I am glad to learn, since been declared void---being as irregular as ever. Many ugly things were spoken of the defeated candidate at the hustings and next day there was "a hand to hand encounter even to the spilling of some blood; and, as if Babu Saroda had not yet drunk the cup of humiliation to bitter dregs, his two sons and a cousin were convicted and sentenced to one month's hard labor each, which order has been commuted by the High Court on the recommendation of the Judge to fine of Rs. 20 each.

I will now review the proceedings of the civic fathers of the

Metropolitan borough, situated on the Surrey side of the Hooghly, where of all places Lord Ripon's gift should be accepted. But if pearls were cast before swine, one must be prepared to see them trampled under their feet. Things seemed to have been going on smoothly until a majority of the Commissioners showed their cloven feet by their proceedings in regard to the proposed removal of a patriotic Commissioner like Babu G. C. Chowdhry from office---proceedings not sanctioned by the Government of Sir Rivers Thompson, who for once rose above the Secretariat prejudices. But the tug of war did not come until the chair was vacated by the Magistrate on transfer, when the Commissioners showed the stuff they were made of. There were two candidates Babu Upendra Chandra Mitra, Government Pleader, whose sympathies with Surendra Nath in jail once cost him his appointment, and that fossilized toad-eater of easy conscience Babu K. N. Bhattacharjee, Vice-Chairman, who stops at nothing to curry favors with the powers that be. Babu Upendra Chandra was elected; but a graceless government, instigated by a notorious official, held the election proceedings void *ab initio*. A second and even a third election were held both resulting in a tie---the President of the meeting Babu Bhattacharjee, himself an aspirant for the chair, declining to vote. But it is an ill wind that blows no body good, and at their fourth meeting the Commissioners elected Dr. Pilcher to the great glee of the European members of the Corporation---having sacrificed the national weal to the demon of self-interest and sold their valued privilege for a mess of pottage. Ought not the Howrahites hang down their heads in shame for these scandalous proceedings of their representatives which cannot bear the light of the day? But it is meet that we should know the men to whose account this municipal mess over the water is to be laid, so that we may hold them up to public execration and ridicule. They are none other than the leaders of the two factions Babus Mitra and Bhattacharjee. While the latter has come in for his share of abuse, it is passing strange that Metropolitan Press should have let the former go scot free. Babu Upendra's conduct cannot be too strongly condemned. A man of liberal education, he ought to have for the none dismissed all baser counsels---sordid views and vengeful feelings, withdrawn his candidature and voted for Kader Nath as the lesser of two evils than see Dr. Pilcher elected to the chair. Because Kader Nath was determined either to be himself the Chairman or betray his native town, that is no reason why Upendra Babu should follow suit. But let that pass. Did not Upendra Chandra show a greater hankering after a European---nay an official Chairman than his rival? Did he not only the other day make his brother resign his commissionership in order that Mr. Westmacott might be returned in his place---Mr. Westmacott of all, who is not a little responsible for the scandals in connection with the election of the Chairman? For, once a Commissioner it is not difficult for a Magistrate to rise to the topmost of the ladder (seeing that there are not a few subservient Commissioners) as the corporators will soon know to their cost now that Dr. Pilcher has resigned the chair and Mr. Westmacott is a Commissioner. I will not refer to the "Nightsoil Depot Scandal" of the Howrah Municipality or to the case instituted by them against Messrs. Reid & Co.,---a case which offers, as you say "an illustration of the prostitution of Municipal prosecution turning it into an engine of oppression," for a word to the wise is enough.

There are scandals in connection with the Uttarpara, North Barrackpur, Bograsherpur, Cutwa, Bisnupur and several other Municipalities which I hope to be able to expose in a future issue.

ONE BEHIND THE SCENE.

## MARINE COURT.

### The Loss of the *Sir John Lawrence*.

MONDAY, JULY 25.

John Leech, sworn, state.d---I was chief engineer one time in the *Sir John Lawrence* from the 22nd of September 1884, to 22nd of September, 1886. Mr. Neustein was with me partly during this time as chief officer. I was chief engineer when I was running to Chondbally weekly. I had six firemen, six stokers, and four coal trimmers, two or four, a serang, two tindals, two oilmen. I had two engineers besides myself. Then when we ran tri-weekly we had an extra engineer, that is two steamers making three trips a week. We then had eight firemen, four coal trimmers, one serang, two tindals and three engineers besides myself, making four in all. This was a sufficient engine-room crew for the vessel. I do not know what the deck crew were. When I went on board in 1884 she had, I believe, been recently repaired. I could not tell you what alterations were made, but I think she had a new deck from the bridge up to the poop---a spar deck. There must have been some bulkheads in the vessel, as I was in her 13 years ago and can say that the vessel then had two side bunkers and a bunker athwart, also a bulkhead separating the stoke hole from the engine-room. The side bulkheads and bunkers were removed. In my opinion the removal of them weakened the ship to a certain degree, as the more bulkheads a ship has the stronger she is. I joined the ship in 1874, and left



her in 1877. During that interval her condition was not the same. In 1874 she was a staunch vessel. Everything good about her. In 1884 the forepart of the ship was not strong in my opinion. The plates down the forepeak were all covered with rust, and the frames also. I saw very little paint then. In 1874 she was properly painted all over, inside and out. In 1885, after the collision occurred with the *Indore*, her plates were very thin. There was a hole knocked in her. There was no paint at all, it was rust. I was sent by the captain to go and have a look at the hole knocked in her forepeak, starboard side. The hole was above water, a good deal above water. She was then drawing eight feet forward and 9-6 aft. The hole was about four feet above water. At the time I went down, I reported that there was a hole in the bow, and that she could not go to sea. The captain did not know of it till then. The hole may have been about 18 inches to two feet square, that is, it was two feet when the ragged ends were cut squares. My engineers cut these parts off under my superintendence. Mr. Turner was second, Mr. Thorpe third, and Mr. Sansoni fourth.

The plate when I cut it was 1-8th of an inch thick. I did not measure it out. I could see that it was so thick. The original thickness of the plate must have been  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch. This is merely a guess of mine. The plate was much corroded. We came back to the workshop at Garden Reach. The collision occurred in the morning at about 6 to 6-30. I cannot tell you the date. The captain sent a letter to the Superintending Engineer who came on board and sent off workmen. That was on the same day. They brought a plate off with them, punched holes in the ship's side round the hole, put a patch on with putty and bolted it, making a bolt patch. We steamed away the same evening for Chandbally. We had passengers on board, a large number. They remained on board all that day. We took them to Chandbally. Mr. Mackeller came on board when the patch was on. He looked at the patch. He may have gone down below, but I did not see him go. I think he must have gone. Mr. Taylor was on board with him. We simply cut the holes, and the yard people did the rest. An engineer named Henderson was sent to put the plate on. I saw the plate put on. I was there all the time. Mr. Mackeller came on board in the evening. No Government surveyor was on board when the patch was being put on. You could make out how thick the plate was after the patch was put on. You could feel from the inside how thick it was. After we came back from the trip, Mr. Taylor came on board the next day. He said if Mr. Bushby ordered the plate to be taken out that there would be no stopping, as the plates on both sides of the bow would have to be taken off. By stopping I want to say that the whole thing would have been exposed if one plate was removed, and a good number of plates, the whole of the forepeak on both sides, would have had to be renewed. Mr. Taylor further said he would see Mr. Bushby about it, and get him to leave that patch as it was, with the exception of the bolts, which he would take off and make a river joint of it. He took out the bolts and made a river joint of it. Renewing those plates would have been an expensive business. It would have occupied over a month at the very least to have done this. Macneill and Co. had the *Medina* running at the time which they chartered from the British India Steam Co. I can't tell you the number the *Sir John Lawrence* was licensed to carry. No other part of the skin of the ship, except the forepeak, had deteriorated since 1874. No other part of the skin of the ship was examined by me. The engine-room was good every way. I should have known nothing of the condition of the forepeak if this collision had not occurred.

I have nothing to do with the holds, and knew nothing about them or the ceilings. I do not know whether the holds were painted. The engines in 1884 were 90 H. P. nominal. They were compound direct action horizontal engines. So far as the shafting and the cylinders were concerned they were all right. The condenser was pretty much worn, very much worn. The rest was in good order, repair, and condition. The boiler was a new one, the main one. The donkey boiler was also a new one. It must have been put into the ship in 1884. I had nothing to do with the ship's pumps, I know nothing of the bilge connexion being cut off. There was one unserviceable boat, the portside one close to the mizzen mast. It was the after quarter boat. The other three were in good order. At the collision the starboard lifeboat was smashed completely, and while the patch was being put on a new boat was sent from the yard to take the place of the unserviceable one. The new one was then locked alongside. In the evening the damaged lifeboat was sent ashore in charge of five lascars. It was towed ashore by the jolly boat. During the day the unserviceable afterport boat was taken away, and a new boat was brought in its place and lashed alongside to take its place, but it was not hoisted on the davit. We went away with three boats. There was also a brand new lifeboat sent us from the yard in the day to replace the one smashed. We then started leaving five men behind in the hurry of leaving. The new one, which was lashed alongside when near Fort Gloucester, got under the vessel and sunk, and we never saw it again from that day to this. The painter parted, and we saw her no more. I could not swear to the fact that the afterport boat was unserviceable. On our return trip the afterport boat came back to us. I am not sure of it. When we got to Chandbally we took the agents' boat with

us to Calcutta and brought it with us. This boat was returned by us to the Babu. The unserviceable boat came back to us again, and it was hung on the davits. It was in an unserviceable condition. I saw it came alongside. It used to leak very bad. It remained with us till just before the survey, when it was taken away again, and a brand new boat put in its place. After the survey was over, and after a trip or two the new boat was taken away, and the old boat was sent back to us again. I saw it come alongside. I only know that it used to leak. As it was hoisted on the davits the water ran out of it when the plug was taken out. I was on board when we grounded at the mouth of the Chandbally river. We had lots of passengers on board; do not know how many. It was very crowded. The passengers wanted to go ashore in the jungle to cook. This boat was let down, and they found that it was so leaky that it had to be taken up on the davits again as it was dangerous to send passengers in it. I left the ship then and the boat was still there. The collision, I think, occurred in May 1885, the unserviceable two boats remained on board the vessel, with the exception of the short time when she was sent ashore, to the time I left the ship to September 1886. There were two surveys held in my time. After the unserviceable boat was removed to make way for the new one, I saw the surveyors when they came on board. I never saw the surveyors order that boat to be put to the water. It passed two surveys. No, I am wrong, when I think of it, it passed one survey. Mr. Bushby was the surveyor. I think there were four surveys while I was on board. Mr. Bushby and Mr. Mackeller were the surveyors, the latter does the engine-room survey. The deck surveys were all done by Mr. Bushby, who also did the first engine-room survey. These surveys take place at the same time. The surveyor looked at the back shafts, examined the fastenings, and made me take off the bearings then and there. He looked at the safety valves too, on deck. It was all finished in half an hour.

Examination of Mr. Leech continued.—There was nothing wrong about the engines, except the condenser, which was old and worn. I can't say for how many days we were aground. The ship got aground very early in the morning, when the moon was clouded. The cause of the grounding must have been on account of darkness. When we were aground the sand was invisible. The nearest shore must have been about 6 lengths off the steamer. These people, I do not think, had food with them. I have seen the steamer crowded and full as it could hold. The people could not get about at all when it was so crowded. The crew could not get about through the passengers. The people could not stretch themselves full. They would have to crumple themselves up. At night a woman had no possible means of going forward and going through the crowd. But during the day she might have gone with the assistance of her friends, forward, or to any part of the vessel she might have wished to go. There were two passenger decks. The uppermost deck was the spar deck, and the other the main deck. The spar deck was flush from the stern right up to the water closet where there was a break. Below that was the main deck. In 1874, when I was in the vessel, there was no spar deck. There was a poop and bridge deck. The only alteration is that the space between the poop and the bridge deck has been decked over, forming a roof to the main deck. The bulwarks, which had been very high between the poop and the bridge deck, had been removed altogether. The new spar deck was supported by iron frames. The distance between it and the main spar deck is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet. The old bulwarks have been replaced by new ones about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 feet high. When she got full cargo of passengers, the height of the top of the bulwarks from the water was 7 feet. They had a full cargo and passengers.

For the last two years that I was in her we did not get any very heavy weather. We got moderate weather, or ordinary monsoon weather. In the latter weather, the sea broke into the main deck. Heavy seas broke in. I have seen passengers wet through, and as much as 6 inches of water right up to the saloon door. I have not seen passengers injured by it. If a storm had occurred it would have not been possible to work the ship, having the passengers on the spar deck. I speak from experience. All the passengers would necessarily have been sent down to the main deck, in case of necessity. It would be dangerous to leave the passengers on the spar deck, because they would roll overboard. There is strong netting and iron rails. It was possible that the passengers would roll overboard. I have seen ballast taken out of the ship. In 1874 and 1884 I found a difference in her stability. She would roll a great deal more than she did previously. There was an awning over the spar deck. There were curtains likewise. These curtains were let down when there was rain. There was nothing to cover the spaces between the bulwarks and the main deck. I have not seen Captain Irvine worse for liquor on duty. I have seen him at the James and Mary's sober. The passengers were not counted in as they went into the ship in Calcutta. In spite of the order occasionally given by the captain they should not come on board before 7 or 7-30, some got on board, and others remained in boats, about 50 or 60 of them being alongside. They got on the steamer by the gangway ladder. The captain used to collect the tickets, which would be taken when we would be going down the river a good way. A great many of the passengers had no tickets. We

would take the fares, which were fixed for the trip. The captain did not issue tickets. The amount that the captain took was checked. I am not aware whether there was any attempt or pretence on the part of the police to count the passengers here. In Chandbally the police used to count the passengers when we got there from Calcutta. Stage planks were placed from the ship to the jetty. A native inspector of the jetty used to come sometimes and count the passengers as they went ashore. There was no order kept. They were allowed to scramble ashore as they liked. He would be able to count if there was rush. I am not aware whether Captain Irvine was fined for crossing excess passengers. I have seen about 12 to 1,300 passengers being carried. The police officer would have been able to count all the passengers. I have seen the S. S. *Sir John Lawrence* go on one occasion when the storm signals were hoisted. We spoke about the weather as being very bad, but we did not speak to the captain about it. I did not think it prudent of him to go out. I do not remember whether there were many passengers on board on that occasion. When Mr. Bushby went on board I was there. It is a well-known thing that we do not give any information. When we are asked a question we answer it. Mr. Young and Mr. Bushby came to the engine-rooms. It is a practice to answer any question that may be asked by the surveyor, but not volunteer any information.

### Law.

#### SELF-GOVERNMENT IN COURT.

##### THE BARANAGAR MUNICIPALITY ELECTION AFFRAY.

The High Court has confirmed the following recommendation of the Sessions Judge.

No. 678.

FROM C. B. GARRETT, ESQ.,

Sessions Judge, 24-Pergunnahs.

TO THE REGISTRAR OF THE HIGH COURT.

Criminal Appellate Side, Calcutta.

Alipore, the 9th July, 1887.

SIR,—Under Section 438 Act X of 1882, I herewith transmit the record of the case noted in the margin, to be laid before the High Court with the following report.

Empress

vs.

1. Mohendro Nath Gangooly
2. Doyal Krishna Banerjee
3. Jogen Chunder Banerjee
4. Nogen Chunder Banerjee.

It appears that in consequence of a strong feeling that Baboo Saroda Prosad Banerjee had been abusing his trust as Chairman of the Baranagar Municipality the Commissioners called on him to

resign his position as a Commissioner. There was a talk of dismissing him but the Chairman managed to get his resignation accepted. A seat in the Municipal Board consequently became vacant and Baboo Jooloo Nath Mozoomdar offered himself as a candidate, Baboo Saroda Prosad Banerjee who was also resolved to die here offered himself for re-election. This act was considered indecent by those of the Commissioners who had compelled his retirement and the applicant Mohendronath Gangooly who is a clerk in one of the Calcutta Banks expressed his opinion of the late Chairman's conduct in language that was more vigorous than delicate. He likened Saroda Prosad to a dog returning to his own vomit. The expression has the sanction of a great antiquity and the Joint Magistrate takes exception to it; it is certainly no more objectionable than much of the language applied to political opponents by gentlemen of higher position in Western countries. However this may be and although the Chairman compelled Mohendro Nath Gangooly to withdraw the expression, Saroda Baboo's partisans were extremely annoyed at it.

On the following morning Mohendro Nath Gangooly was going to Calcutta as usual and he had to pass near Saroda Baboo's house. According to his account he was attacked by Doyal Krishna, the nephew, Nogen and Jogen, the sons, of Saroda Baboo who beat him severely. According to the account of Doyal Krishna however he simply remonstrated with Mohendro Nath in the indecency of his language whereupon Mohendro Nath attacked him with his umbrella and struck him rather a severe blow under the eye with it.

The view which the Joint Magistrate takes of the case is that the parties were equally to blame, that they fought in a public place, and they have therefore made an affray, each party being equally to blame for the affray occurring.

The manner in which the Joint Magistrate has taken up the case seems to me objectionable—instead of hearing Mohendro Nath Gangooly's complaint against Doyal and his cousins and their counter charge against Mohendro Nath, he has mixed them all up in one common charge, has put them in the dock as defendants and has convicted them on the evidence of selected witnesses whom he has culled from among those cited by both parties.

The first witness is Hem Chunder Hazra, he did not see the actual occurrence but he says Mohendro ran into his castor oil factory for shelter and that his head was streaming with blood.

The 2nd witness says he saw Doyal, Nogen and Jogen beating Mohendro in front of Saroda Baboo's house—did not see how Doyal got his wound and did not see the beginning of the scuffle.

Rakhal Chunder Nauth saw Mohendro Nauth and Doyal struggling and pulling at an umbrella.

Kali Chunder Chuckerbutty says he saw Mohendro Nauth strike Doyal on the temple with his umbrella and then Doyal caught hold of the umbrella and Mohendro fell down.

Sheik Golam Hossain saw them struggling.

Nepal Chunder Bose says there was struggle for a sheet followed by an attack on Mohendro.

Mohendro Nauth admits that being attacked he defended himself with his umbrella and may not have hurt Doyal—he says he does not remember as a matter of fact whether he did so or not.

It is evident I think that all the witnesses except perhaps Hem Chunder Hazra are more or less partizans, and color their evidence accordingly. I think there are some facts which are not in dispute, it is not denied that the row first began by Doyal accosting Mohendro and asking him what he meant by using such language to his uncle. Doyal had no right to interpellate Mohendro Nath in this fashion.

Then it is admitted that Mohendro was on his way to office dressed for office and on his way to the river side to take boat, it is unlikely that under such circumstances he would seek to quarrel. On the other hand Doyal and his cousins were dressed in dhooties and evidently had nothing to do but to lounge about the village all day.

As I have said before there is very little impartial evidence, but I think that the whole probabilities of the case show that Doyal and his cousins were the aggressors, that they originally molested Mohendro Nath who retaliated and defended himself with his umbrella.

If the High Court takes the same view of the case as I do, I would submit that the Joint-Magistrate's order convicting all the applicants and sentencing them to one month's rigorous imprisonment each, is an order which is not under the circumstances a proper one. Mohendro Nath Gangooly was the aggrieved party—he was attacked and beaten and defended himself with his umbrella, and if in so doing he caused hurt to one of his assailants, his act was justifiable. I recommend that he be discharged.

As regards the other defendants, they I think have been properly convicted, but considering that the political enthusiasm incited them to the act, that Doyal and his cousins were little more than boys, and that they are of a respectable family, I think that the sentence passed by the Joint-Magistrate is injudicious and unreasonably severe, and I recommend that it be commuted for a fine of Rs. 20 each.

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

##### A CONTRADICTION.

SIR,—I have read your 'fine story of Nemesis.' Though I come from the 'District in North Bengal' referred to, I must say that I know nothing of the case; nor did I hear of it until I had read your article; and when I say so, I do not mean that the 'fine story,' so far as the 'landholder' is concerned, is not based on facts. Whether the 'landholder' portion of the *guy* has any leg to stand on is more than I can say. Of one thing, however, I am sure. No Apostle of the New Dispensation has visited the 'landholder's' village these four or five months. It was, to my knowledge, Baboo Umesh Chunder Dutt, B. A., of the Sadharan Brahma Somaj, that visited that 'station' during April or during the first two weeks of May last; and for aught I know, no missionary even of that Somaj has since visited the place. I should be obliged if, in the interests of truth, you would, in the next issue of your well-written paper, publish this contradiction, as also such particulars as would lead to the identification of the unfortunate 'Brahmo Missionary' referred to in the subjoined extract from your really facetious article:

"To complete the drama, the Brahma missionary who visited the station before the victim's bruises had all disappeared, preached an eloquent sermon on the impropriety and sinfulness of male persons disguising themselves as females even for the purpose of inflicting disdain punishment where punishment is deserved. For, argued this apostle of brand new dispensation, the sexes are the work of God and they should never be made doubtful by the false aid of attire. An echo in form of the Catholic's, Whom God has joined let no man part."—Yours Obediently,

22nd July, 1887.

NORTH-BENGALITE.

\*\* No district was specifically referred to in our paper. And North Bengal being itself too vague a term, it is vain for the inquisitive to try their ingenuity upon the matter. There was no possibility of identification, if indeed the whole is not a mere fable. The story was sufficiently interesting in its circumstances and important in its moral to merit publication. Likewise no particular form of Brahmoism, nor even any organised Brahmoism at all, was referred to. Nor was the word "missionary" employed in its professional sense. Hence that and the words "new dispensation" were not allowed the distinction of capital initials.—ED. R. & K.

# REIS & RAYSET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 1887.

No. 285

## The Week.

A FRENCH astronomer calculates the stars at 100,000,000. This by the powerfulest telescope. A small telescope gives only 150,000. An opera glass can discover but 20,000. In a pure, cloudless and moonless sky, 2,478 in the Northern and 3,307 in the Southern Hemisphere, are visible to the naked eye.

One hundred millions of worlds! And there are many hundred millions more beyond our ken but not beyond our conception! How infinite is Nature! how insignificant man—in this vast and crowded theatre! Irreverence after that is simply madness.

We read:—

"At a special congregation of the University of Cambridge held on June 20, the honorary degree of L.L.D., was conferred on the Hon. Sir William Wilson Hunter, K. C. S. I., who on being presented, had reference made to several of his admirable contributions to the literature of that country, especially to his 'Brief History of the Indian People,' his 'Dictionary of the non-Aryan Languages of India and High Asia,' his 'Orissa,' his 'Annals of Rural Bengal,' and his 'Life of the Earl of Mayo.' The twenty volumes of the 'Statistical Account of Bengal' and the thirteen volumes of the 'Imperial Gazetteer of India,' all of them edited by him, were eulogised as 'great works which had been welcomed even by foreign nations as worthy of a great Empire and a great people.'"

We are glad to see that Cambridge has confirmed as it were the honorary degree early conferred on Sir WILLIAM by his own provincial, or provincially Scotch *alma mater*—Aberdeen or St. Andrews, we forget which.

M. NICOLAS NOTOVICH, an officer in the Russian army, who had been touring the last five years in Central Asia, has arrived in India in the character of Special Correspondent of the St. Petersburg *Novoye Vremya*.

THE Star Theatre property has passed to Baboo GOPAL LAL SEAL, son of the late Baboo KANYELAL and grandson of the late Baboo MUTYAL SEAL, for a consideration of Rs. 30,000. It will be reopened after the Dussera vacation as the Emerald Theatre.

COLONEL SANDERSON described the Home Rule oratory of Mr. GLADSTONE and his friends as a "muddy flood of saponaceous blather." How different was DISRAELI's description of "the heedless rhetorician enamoured of his own verbosity!"

CERTAIN young women of an American county have banded together not to kiss any man who uses tobacco, and the young men return the compliment by abstaining to look at a young woman who wears false hair. And have the fallow sugar-devouring misses no objection to the breath of alcohol?

It appears from the Madras *People's Friend*, that a criminal information has been filed by Mr. MORGAN, of the Forest Department, against Mr. ROSS, of the Madras Civil Service. The charge is being investigated by the Chief Magistrate Mr. SCHARLIER. The enquiry is kept out of the public by the silence of the Madras press, notably of the *Mail*, *Times* and *Standard*.

WE may well expect one of these days to carry with us for use bottled sun beams drawn from cucumber. In America, they are already manufacturing vegetable ivory—from potatoes. These are, to begin with, washed in diluted sulphuric acid and then boiled in the same element to dense solidity. They are next freed from the acid solution and dried, and then dyed and shaped for trade purposes.

THE Madras University has fixed upon a novel degree—D.C.—Doctor of Commerce. Poor Beighted Land again! But in these days of decorations and wearing of the letters of the alphabet by way of a tail to one's name, what wonder that the merchant princes and peasants should want to have a set of characters open to them, specially since their very newspaper man has to be addressed as "Sir John Lawson, Kt!"

A WELL-TO-DO Mahomedan trader in hide, Sheik ALL, has been sentenced, by the Madras Presidency Magistrate Mr. MASKELL, to Rs. 20 fine and six weeks' labor, for riding his horse in a negligent manner, on two different occasions. In the second case, a woman was knocked down and her collar bone fractured. The order for imprisonment was, of course, resented, and an application was immediately made to the High Court for bail, but the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice PARKER would not order bail.

THEY have a paper church at Bergen, in Norway. It can accommodate 1,000 worshippers. It is perfectly round with the external form of an octagon. The raised work, the groined roof, the nave, the capitals are all of waterproof papiermache. How our Indian papiermache makers will stare at this use of the thing! Here is an opportunity for the new ministry of Cashmere to develop a well-known local industry in a new and fruitful direction. The manufacture is worth the attention of our British Indian fellow-subjects, too. We hope the Government of India in the Department of Agriculture, &c., will gather and communicate to the public every available information on the subject of papiermache architecture.

ELECTRICITY has been reduced to many uses. It has annihilated space and time. The latest development is that wines are now aged by it.—

"A process has been devised, which consists chiefly in winding wire around casks containing wines, brandy, whisky, &c., and then passing a current through the coils, the result being to give the ripeness, mellowness, and other qualities produced by aging. Experts, who have tested the liquors thus treated, report that, while the wines were made much smoother, the brandies and whiskies received the most benefit."

Here is one of science's services to the poor. The knowledge of this use of electricity has much the same effect upon drinking magnificence as the discovery of the recent American mines has had upon silver. All in a moment the Counts ESTERHAZ, with their well kept cellars in which wines are preserved in chronological order, are reduced to be the butt of ridicule of the rising masses! You will now drink as good as old wines by the expenditure of an additional shilling.

HOLKAR may have been disagreeable to "society" at the British capital. But he could scarcely have been half so exasperating as a representative of royalty from the Farther East. It is reported of the Queen of Hawaii in England that

"One day she returned a carriage the Queen had sent for her because all the servants attached to it were not dressed in scarlet livery:

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

another day she declined an escort of Hussars and insisted on one from the Household Cavalry. Naturally some people thought it best to keep clear of this eccentric personage, and this feeling was very apparent at the last Buckingham Palace entertainment. The King of the Belgians was deputed to take her into supper but he declined; she was then allotted to the King of Saxony, who also refused to be saddled with this piece of coloured Royalty, and finally the Duke of Edinburgh had to accept the inevitable. Fortunately for the peace of the Court, rumours of a revolution in her own Kingdom has led to her hasty flight from England."

HERE is the United States' President's Jubilee Address to our Queen-Empress:—

"Great and Good Friend,—In the name and on behalf of the people of the United States, I present their sincere felicitations upon the arrival of the fiftieth anniversary of your Majesty's accession to the crown of Great Britain. I but utter the general voice of my fellow-country men in wishing for your people a prolongation of reign so marked with advance in popular well-being, physical, moral, and intellectual. It is justice and not adulation to acknowledge the debt of gratitude and respect due to your personal virtues for their important influence in producing and causing the prosperous and well-ordered condition of affairs now generally prevailing throughout your dominions. May your life be prolonged, and peace, honour and prosperity bless the people over whom you have been called to rule. May liberty flourish throughout your Empire, under just and equal laws, and your Government be strong in the affections of all who live under it, and I pray God to have your Majesty in His holy keeping.—GROVER CLEVELAND."

That is more complimentary to the Queen, and more cordial to England, than the British could expect from Republican sternness or American rivalry.

IT is reported that—

"A small lot of land situated in the south-east corner of Wall and Broad streets, in New York city, fifteen feet ten inches by forty-five and a half feet, was purchased by Messrs. Drexel Morgan and Co., for the sum of 250,000 dollars in gold, or as many gold dollars as would cover its surface. This is said to be a higher price than was ever before paid for a piece of ground of equal dimensions in any city in the world."

Such exceptional cases are to be met with in every country. The late Babu SIB NARAYAN GHOSE would have been glad to purchase at the same rate the slip of ground behind his palatial residence which, like a tall cliff, lifts up its head to the sky and looks down on the surrounding houses in Pathuriaghata. There was a piece of land close to a temple at Brindaban for which a fabulous sum was offered. The respective owners of these fractions of the Globe would not part with their own, however. There was litigation in consequence and in each case lacs of Rupees were spent by either side.

WE know the productiveness of lemon trees, and can understand the following:—

"With regard to the prolific nature of the orange, the crops, more especially in an abundant season, are something really surprising. Twenty thousand marketable oranges from one tree seems almost beyond belief, but such is a fact, the branches have frequently to be propped up with wooden supports to prevent their breaking. Risso mentions a tree growing at Nice in 1789, which was more than fifty feet high, and the trunk of so large a girth that it required two men with outstretched arms to embrace it. This tree usually bore from 5,000 to 6,000 oranges."

AN Italian paper relates:—

"A young butcher of Rovizzano, who had just reached his twentieth year (prescribed for military service) was sitting a few days ago before his shop, thinking what on earth he could do to exempt himself from paying this tribute to the country. He had not a farthing, and could not consequently pay for another to take his place. Two carabinieri accosted him, telling him that the authorities had something to communicate to him. The young man obeyed at once with the firm conviction that all the authorities would have to say to him was that he must present himself for serving in the army. On appearing before the authority of the place, several questions were addressed to him, to all of which he gave the most satisfactory answers. But when he was asked who his parents were, the poor boy blushed, for he knew nothing about them. The magistrate then said, 'Well, I may tell you something about it. You are the son of a French General who died a few months ago, leaving you in the possession of 60,000l.; and this is the object for which I summoned you here.'"

ON the evening of July 1st, Mr. BRADLAUGH in the House of Commons moved a resolution to the following effect:—

"That in the opinion of this house, ownership of land should carry with it the duty of cultivation, and that in all cases where land capable of cultivation with profit, and not devoted to some purpose of public utility or enjoyment, is held in a waste or uncultivated state, the local authorities ought to have the power to compulsorily acquire such land, by payment to the owner for a limited term of an annual sum, not exceeding the then average

net annual produce of the said lands, in order that such local authorities may, in their discretion, let the said lands to tenant cultivators with such conditions as to term of tenancy, rent, reclamation, drainage and cultivation respectively as shall afford reasonable encouragement, opportunities, facilities and security for the due cultivation and development of the said lands." Mr. Bradlaugh submitted that the right of ownership of cultivable lands ought to carry with it the duty of cultivation; that there were now at least 12,000,000 of acres in the United Kingdom in an uncultivated state; and that when the owner of land would not cultivate, means should be adopted to ensure its due cultivation. He further urged that in a crowded country like England, where large numbers of persons were out of employment and where there was land which could afford employment but did not owing to the action of the owners, the Legislature had the duty as well as the right to step in and make that a legal offence which was now only a moral offence. Mr. Bradlaugh then quoted from the evidence taken before the Duke of Richmond's Commission in support of his contention that there were 12,000,000 acres of cultivable land in an uncultivated state in the United Kingdom. The scheme would give more employment and would increase the wages of every artisan in the country. He regarded the present system of outdoor relief as an utter curse. He would caution the representatives of the landed interest, that it was no use to rely upon old statutes and old deeds. If the hammer and the spade and the loom could not be heard in that house now, they would in the future make themselves heard in the hunger and misery of the people."

The motion was lost by 86 votes.

WE read in the *Indian Planter's Gazette*:—

"One of the most dastardly and unprovoked attacks ever made upon a European in these districts, is the savage assault lately committed upon Mr. C. Maries the clever Superintendent of the Maharajah of Durbunga's palace gardens. Whilst riding round the grounds, just after passing one of the palace doors, one of the numerous sepoys attached to the Maharajah's body-guard, suddenly rushed up from behind and felled him to the earth with a well directed blow on the head from an iron bound lathi. Fortunately, Mr. Maries' sola hat somewhat broke the force of the blow, and though dazed and bleeding he was luckily able to recognise his assailant and to shout to the guards at the palace doors to arrest him. The gentlemen in question, however, paid not the smallest heed to Mr. Maries' orders but calmly allowed the blackguard to rub by them and escape—strong evidence that they were thoroughly aware of the premeditated nature of their colleague's attack. The sepoy has, we are glad to say, been committed to take his trial at the sessions where he will doubtless get his deserts."

And no more than his deserts, we hope. Again—

"The Maharajah of Durbunga will, through his Solicitor, act as prosecutor against the orderly who so brutally assaulted Mr. Maries. We hope that not only the actual defendant but those who put him up to committing the assault will eventually be brought to punishment; for it is, of course, absurd to suppose that he committed the assault entirely of his own accord. Everyone who knows the native character will agree with us in feeling sure that the whole plan had been got up before hand by the leading members of the bodyguard, and that the wretched skunk who actually wielded the lathi was merely a tool selected by those whose better pay and superior position rendered it unwise to personally wipe out a grudge. The bodyguard of His Highness love goats and goats love flowers, but a goat's bite is simply death to any delicately cultivated plant. Mr. Maries has frequently had to complain of the ravages committed by the goats intended for the sacrificial feasts of the gentle guardians of the palace. But when in his honest endeavours to keep the palace gardens in the blooming state which make them the boast of the district—Mr. Maries is rewarded by an assault of the nature he has to complain of, it seems high time that the present bodyguard are placed under discipline sufficient to ensure their behaving themselves properly and not disgracing their princely employer and themselves."

We do not like the tone of these paragraphs, which are of the nature of contempts of court. But we sympathise with Mr. MARIES who is really a master in his profession, which is evidently not appreciated by the cowardly bullies of the guard, who probably consider him a mere white mule.

If the sepoy acted in anything like the way that he is said to have done, he is no sepoy but a savage. And if the other sepoys looked on, without attempting a rescue or the arrest of the wrong-doer, the whole force is demoralised.

ACCORDING to the *Civil and Military Gazette*,

"There was an unfortunate scuffle the other day, between a European officer and a native Executive Engineer on the Ferozepore Mall. Both were driving on the Mall, and owing to the latter misunderstanding, apparently, the rule of the road, a quarrel arose in which he suffered considerably: but the cases brought by the parties against each other have been wisely withdrawn; the result of the encounter being quite sufficient for the purposes of justice."

THE Madras papers report that—

A First-Grade Pleader named Syed Mohamed Ismael Sahib, practising in the Courts of the Kistna district, had been charged with, and convicted of libelling Mr. E. White, the District Munsiff of Kurumgoody. The libel was contained in a Telugu petition addressed to the District Judge of Kistna, wherein Mr. White was charged with re-

ceiving bribes, misappropriating Government money, &c. The petition purported to have been signed by three men of the District, all of whom, however, denied having attached their signatures to it. The Magistrate found that the Pleader had written the libellous petition, and accordingly sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 100, in default of payment of the fine to suffer simple imprisonment for two months. Against such conviction the pleader had appealed to the District Court, but the appeal was dismissed. The matter came up at the High Court yesterday before the Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Parker, and their Lordships held that the Pleader had brought a most scandalous charge against the District Munsiff, and that he (the Pleader) was therefore guilty of an offence implying defect of character, which for a time at least, unfitted him to carry on his profession as a Pleader. Their Lordships took into consideration the fact that the Pleader was an old man, and had been practising for about twenty years, said that they could not pass a lighter sentence on him than suspension for six months. They therefore ordered "That Syed Mahomed Ismael Sahib be suspended from practising as a Pleader for the space of six calendar months from this date."

LORD CONNEMARA and party had, during their visit to Hampi, severe attack of diarrhoea. There was alarm, as there was cholera in the district; they however returned to Bellary and are doing well.

HERR ALFRED KRUPP of the firm of Frederick Krupp, the greatest steel-works and gun foundry in the world, is dead. He was born in 1810 at Essen. The Foundry covers an area of 500 hectares and employs 10,600 workmen.

DURING the month of July 1887, forty-six thousand eight hundred and thirty persons visited the Indian Museum, namely, natives 35,443 males and 10,783 females and Europeans 417 males and 152 females, the daily average for the 22 days the Museum was open, being 1,733.

M. KATKOFF, the editor of the *Moscow Gazette* and a political factor in Russia, is dead. Poor DHULEEP SINGH—doubly poor!

WE read in the *Indian Daily News* :—

"The latest American fad has just been revealed in the ruling of the Supreme Court of Kansas. That worthy body has decreed that a woman need not take her husband's name unless she likes. For instance, if the name be plain unadorned Thompson, and the wife is a Stuyvesant or Deschene, she may use her maiden name for all official purposes; but the Court does not say whether she is to be called Miss or Mrs.—that presumably being left to the lady's discretion. Without doubt this will cause domestic complications; for if the wife of Brown bears the name of Jones, Smith may be excused for failing to understand the situation. But an enlightened Kansas jury can always be trusted to bring in a verdict of 'justifiable homicide,' which will exonerate Brown, and please Mrs. Miss Jones."

This is freedom with a vengeance—the freedom of the Backwoods and the Border!

FATHER MACGLYNN defied the Pope and denounced the Papacy as a mere machine, with nothing but corruption and lust for money to work it—and has, for the offence, been excommunicated.

WE read :—

"A man seduced his friend's wife. The co-respondent was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and the husband obtained a divorce. Then the husband brought an action for damages in the name of his children, and the French tribunal (of Douai) sentenced the co-respondent to pay 40/ to each child, the money to be placed in the funds till the children came of age. The judgment set forth that the seducer, in betraying the confidence of the husband and turning the wife from her duty, had rendered himself responsible towards the children for the consequences that might follow, and that the children, being by the divorce deprived of a mother's care and affection, were fully entitled to damages."

Truth reports :—

"The sudden and unexpected departure for India of Holkar, who is now staying at the Hotel d'Albe, Paris, has excited much surprise; Holkar was to have attended the State ball, and also the two reviews, and arrangements for a tour through the country had been made. It is a great pity that he came to England, as he has gone back in a very bad humour, and he certainly has not been in any respect a success in this country. The Court functionaries have seriously offended all the Indian visitors, and the blunderings at the Volunteer Review brought Holkar's wrath to a climax."

THE late Sir BARROW ELLIS always remembered Rutnagiri where he began his service. By his will he has left Rs. 25,000 for the benefit of the poor of that place and of the Bombay Presidency generally. He has also bequeathed some books from his library to the Northbrook Club.

THE Northbrook Club honored the philanthropic Sheriff of Bombay Sir MANOCKJEE PETIT in his hon, now on a visit to Europe, by a dinner to the latter. Lord NORTHBROOK himself presided.

## Editorial Notes.

ON the retirement of Sir THEODORE HOPE in December, Sir CHARLES ELLIOTT succeeds as Public Works Minister. A good choice, decidedly. Hope has been a cruel disappointment.

THE Irish Land Bill has passed through Committee. During the debate, one of those disgraceful scenes occurred which have become common of late. The party of organised obstruction clearly do not like to be paid in their own coin. Mr. HEALY resented the interruptions of Mr. DE LISLE and threatened to break his neck. The unpatriotic threat being reported to the House, the Speaker named Mr. HEALY and he was suspended the House for a fortnight. He will be the better thought of in Ireland for his rowdiness, just as the South presented Colonel BROOKS, representative of South Carolina, with a gold-headed cane inscribed "Hit him again," for cudgelling the abolitionist orator SUMNER in his place in the House.

THE Duke of Connaught has taken passage for the return journey by the mail which leaves Brindisi on the 22nd. Meanwhile, the special Act of Parliament—50 and 51 Victoria, Chapter 10—empowering the Governor-General of India in Council to authorize His Royal Highness to return to England to be present at the Jubilee celebration without resigning or avoiding his office of Commander-in-Chief in the Bombay Presidency—is published in the *Gazette of India* of the 30th July 1887. To keep the *sherista domust*, as we say—to keep the record straight, that is.

THE *Bombay Gazette* announces the success of Mr. WILSON's appeal to the Secretary of State against the decision of his own peers and the Bombay Government, on the charges preferred by Mr. SHIMARO LAUD, otherwise known as the Cambay scandal. He has been acquitted, but he does not continue in the service. He is said to have resigned—by advice, not to say arrangement, we suspect. Mr. WILSON is thus, we believe, saved the disgrace of dismissal and the loss of pension. We shall not be surprised to lose Lord RAY.

THE Home Department Resolution No. 19 746-621 dated 11th May 1885, prescribing Rules for the receipt of Testimonials and Addresses by Servants of Government, are reissued with additions and with invitation to Local Governments and Administrations to exact obedience thereto. The Head of any Government or Administration is, however, above these Rules. We reproduce the Rules from the last week's *Gazette* :—

"1. Save as in these Rules otherwise provided, all Servants of Government, Government or Uncovenanted, are forbidden to receive complimentary or laudatory addresses in any form; or to accept testimonials of any kind; or to attend public meetings; or to accept testimonials of a formal and public character held in their honour."

"2. The Government views with disfavour all similar manifestations in the case of retired officers, when following immediately upon their retirement from active service, and designed as an acknowledgment of acts done by them while in the service of Government."

"3. It is not intended to prohibit such an expression of regard for the private or official character of an officer retiring from service, or leaving his station or district, as is involved in a farewell entertainment, supported by his personal friends, even though some of these may be his official subordinates. But it is expected that the proceedings on such occasions will be substantially of a private and informal character."

"4. Local Governments and Administrations are authorised to forward to an officer who has left a station or district the resolution of any local public body recording a vote of thanks to him for help and advice afforded during his official connection with the station or district."

"5. Medical Officers are not prohibited from receiving pecuniary recognition of their services from a community or body of persons which may desire to acknowledge these; but the previous sanction of the Local Government or Administration must be obtained by Medical Officers before receiving any public complimentary address."

"6. Nothing in the above Rules is meant to prohibit compliance with the request of a public body that a Government officer should sit for his portrait, bust, or statue in recognition of his public services; provided that the portrait, bust, or statue is not intended for presentation to the officer concerned."

"7. The participation of Government officers in the raising of funds for the foundation of Scholarships, or for procuring a portrait, bust, or statue, as a spontaneous recognition of the services of a Government officer, is not forbidden; but it should be clearly understood that any solicitation on the part of officers of Government for subscriptions from



any person, who does not voluntarily come forward to contribute, is disapproved by the Government of India.

8. The previous sanction of the Government of India must be obtained to the relaxation of these Rules in any special case in which the Local Government or Administration may think this desirable."

The exception in favour of the head of the administration is the weakest point in this code and will go far to defeat its object. In fact, as before, these oft repeated rules will be a dead letter. So long as the Governor or Chief Commissioner goes about fishing for testimonials, they cannot be honestly enforced against the subalterns.

THE gods are clearly deserting the *Hindoo Patriot*. Here is another case for his confusion :—

"A Hindu woman of the Sonar caste aged about 27 years, has applied to the Indore court for maintenance from her husband who has, it is said, deserted her for the last eight years, and who although he has married a second wife, refuses to give her a far-gati to enable her to marry another, as is allowed by the caste to which she belongs."

It is no use our contemporary's reviling this last practice as Holkar practice or Halalkhoti. RAGHUNATH RAO is master of the situation, in the Holkar's Territory, and he is presumably determined to support all departures from the pure course of Hinduism undefiled. Is he not?

No such thing! Let our contemporary be comforted. There is balm in Gilead yet. SIVAJI RAO has not yet abdicated in favour of his minister. RAGHUNATH RAO is not the state of Indore quite. And though an ardent reformer, he has not yet lost his wits. A reformer-minister may be an embarrassment to his master and a nuisance to the people, yet he need not impose his views upon the country. RAGHUNATH RAO clearly cannot hide the light of his faith in a bushel, but though he may preach, he will not persecute. The people too are wideawake and not without spirit. At any rate, whatever cause for misgivings there may have been, has been dispelled by a ruling of law just promulgated in the Holkar's *Gazette* official. It appears that

"A Hindu in the service of the Maharaja Holkar's army died a few years ago leaving a widow, a married daughter, divided brothers and cousins, him surviving. The widow succeeded the deceased in his property; but when she died, many claimants came forward. The Pundits were consulted who gave their opinion in favour of the married daughter. The caste-people, however, held that the daughter having gone into another family by marriage, she was not the heir according to their time-honoured custom."

The matter, in due course, came before the Durbar. The most eminent Pandits were consulted and the matter was long and earnestly discussed. At length, the Judicial Committee of the Holkar's Privy Council has now found that the custom set up is against law, and could not prevail. Hence the dictum is published for the guidance of the courts and the people, that where a particular Hindu custom is clearly opposed to undoubted law—by which the Sastras or the legists and commentators are doubtless meant—the law must be obeyed.

THE BOULANGERS seem all gifted with the courage of their convictions. The French engineer of that ilk had been to the Panama Isthmus and thus delivered himself, in New York on June 15, on the canal enterprise :—

"We have funds enough in hand to continue the work about four months. After the money is exhausted, I think De Lesseps will be forced to abandon the enterprise for good, or for some years at least. The scarcity of money, impracticability of the present route, and unexpected obstacles are reasons sufficient. Not more than one-fifth of the work has been done, or about 30,000,000 cubic metres out of 150,000,000 cubic metres have been excavated. It has cost \$200,000,000. Great difficulty has been experienced in getting labourers owing to the unhealthy climate. I was four months getting six men. We have sent to Trinidad, Hong Kong, and other remote places with varied success. We got about 800 Chinese, and they brought their own cooks and physicians for sanitary reasons. Sixty per cent. of the common labourers die each year. *Eighty per cent. of the whites perish.* Last year our society sent seventy-two engineers, agents, clerks, &c., to Panama, and there are eleven of us left fit for work. Forty-five died, and the remainder are as good as dead."

Nothing could be more damaging. But LESSEPS is not to be crushed even by facts, stubborn things though they be. He succeeded in Egypt in the face of man and Nature, civilisation and barbarism combined. It may be said that Egypt at least was not the Golgotha that Panama is. But Calcutta in the beginning of the last century was not a bit more healthy than Central America. It was actually called Golgotha in the writings of the day. And yet look at the success of Calcutta! There is nothing like "go." It goes straight home to its object. The Panama business is not half so arduous as the Suez Canal. That was a pure experiment and something worse. LESSEPS too was an untried man. He was no engineer in fact. Now, he carries the prestige of

achievement. The world believes in him. Our only fear is that he may not live long enough, or his health may fail.

MRS. ANNIE BOYD, of Grand Rapids, Mich., sued a rum seller who sold her husband liquor; under its influence he, the husband, killed a man, for which offence he was ordered to jail for life. She has been awarded \$9,500, damages. But has the rum seller no remedy? Did he create the liquid fire in which he dealt? Is the state that patronises him and ekes out its income by setting him up to tempt weak humanity, guiltless in the matter? Are not the legislators *particeps criminis* in the murder by a man under the influence of poison openly because lawfully sold? We do hope statesmen, politicians and publicists will try to realise the meditations of the ruined publican. Egged on by the state to sell rum, he finds himself "sold" indeed! And this law is so sensitively just that it gives relief to every sufferer! If the murdered man's old coachman had sued, he might probably have got a few shillings for the loss of his employment when he was approaching his pension days. Yes, public virtue is always ready to be generous at the expense of the poor publican. There is no justice for him, to say nothing of mercy. As injured as anybody in the business, the publican is betrayed into the bargain.

We can imagine the lofty scorn with which our remarks will be met. Of course, we are sinners to cry for justice to publicans. And so we are. But the good are not necessarily unkind to evil. To us, nothing appears so sublimely tender and generously holy as the call of the good Scotch parson in Sir FRANCIS HEAD'S Quarterly Essay, "And now, my friends, let us pray for the Devil—will nae body pray for the puir Devil?"

HERE is another form of the mania for statistics. An Italian writer could find time and had inclination to ascertain that

"The total number of persons employed by the various post offices was 392,730; and in the course of the twelve months 4,921,000,000 letters, 599,000,000 post cards, 1,231,000,000 books and parcels, 1,959,000,000 newspapers, and 127,000,000 telegrams were transmitted. It is calculated that the envelopes, if placed end to end, would extend over a distance of not less 500,000 miles; and that the newspapers, if opened and spread out, would cover a space of 634 square miles—measuring that is to say, more than 24 miles in each direction. The weight of letters, cards, books, and papers is estimated at a million tons; and the total sum charged for the conveyance of this immense mass of matter was a little over £35,000,000."

And if so, what then? What is the object of all the research and all the computations? What harm if the figures are wrong by a million or two, or for the matter of that a dozen millions? What boots it if they, or the arithmetical calculations respecting them, are faultless to the dot of an *i*? What a patience is that man's! What an exasperating plodder is this Italian! He should be set to the unperformed feat of going through his national annalist of the Wars of Pisa.

IT would seem that that inhindu savage 'DHOONDOOPUNT is still on the brain of many honest Britons. A paragraph is going the round of the press at Home and abroad from which it appears that

"A correspondent of the *Weekly Times and Echo* avers that Nana Sahib, the adopted son of Raji Rao II, the last of the Peishwas, and the reputed perpetrator of the massacre of Cawnpore in 1857, is now living a few miles beyond Katmandu, the capital of Nepal, and that he receives a monthly allowance of Rs. 50 from Jung Bahadur, the Rajah of Nepal. The informant in this case professes to have been himself an actor in the Indian mutiny on the British side, and complains that the Indian Government do not take any trouble to bring Nana Sahib out of his hiding place to receive the punishment he so richly deserves."

It is full thirty years since the NANA fled before the too late relief party of British troops. Since then he has not been heard of for certain but not for want of curiosity. The interest in the fugitive was almost morbid, and every effort was made, by Government as well as by private parties, to learn his whereabouts—to trace the beast to his lair—but to no purpose. Many accounts were received but most of them of no value. Many a time indeed was the NANA caught, but instead of being quartered, was finally released as not the identical cutthroat. As the *Weekly Times and Echo's* Correspondent could keep his secret so long, he might as well have maintained silence a little longer. This was the worst possible time he could have chosen for making his disclosure. It was bad enough that the Empire should be called on to celebrate the half-century of the Victorian Era at the moment when it is threatened with dismemberment at Home. But there was no help for it. The synchrony of the completion of Her Majesty's fifty years' reign with the Irish Crisis, is a pure misfortune and unavoidable ac-

cident. What shall we say of the taste of the man who thinks this an appropriate time for reminding Her Majesty's lieges of Great Britain as well as of India, of the worst horrors of 1857.

WE received on Monday the following telegram from Dacca :—

Mr. Rahaman, Moonsiff, ordered Municipal suit decreed for Rupees 218 with cost. Decretal amount to be refunded to Municipal fund after realisation from defendants the Municipal Commissioners. Summons issued against *Dacca Prakas* today for defaming Mr. SARKIES.

Having taken from the first such interest in the case against the Municipal Commissioners, we need scarcely say that the result is so far satisfactory. Of course, the case will be appealed. We have little fear of the lower court's order being set aside by any decently competent appellate court. Mr. ABDUR RAHMAN, though a Moonsiff, is a barrister. He has done his duty in a right loyal spirit, and at once with intelligence and independence. The judgment thoroughly reconciles us to Barrister-Moonsiffs, and gives the entire class a title to the confidence of the community.

THE Agent to the Governor-General, apparently wishing to test the rumours about the critical state of the King of Oudh's health, visited him. The King probably feared that the advent of the Representative of British Power might be followed by European physicians and surgeons. At the appointed hour, His Majesty dressed himself, and sat up in his bed to receive the Agent. As soon as the latter came in, the King anticipated the Agent with enquiries about his health and that of the *Mem Sahib*, and so on. Then came the Agent's turn. In four or five minutes, the visit came to a conclusion, the Agent doubtless leaving with impression that the rumours he had heard were gross exaggerations and that there was no cause for anxiety; yet.

It appears that since the death, some months ago, of Moonshee ALI NUKKEE, who was one of the two officers of the King empowered by His Majesty to receive his stipend, MANSIRAMOOD DOWLA alone has been drawing the King's stipend. Since the late theft of the King's seals, the attention of Government has been drawn to the matter, and the Agent has impressed upon His Majesty the inadvisableness of one man drawing such a large sum, specially as that man had been an insolvent. This letter was not, for some days, brought to the King's notice. When at last it was brought, the matter was made light of by MANSIRAMOOD DOWLA. His Majesty insisting upon something being done as he had been specially written to, the name of an obscure Palace servant was mentioned as one who might be joined with the Naeb in the responsible duty of drawing the King's stipend. MAHAMMAD ALI was thus sent to the Agency.

On Thursday a Hakeem has arrived from Lucknow to undertake the treatment of the King. His diagnosis differs from that of the Hakeem here. He was to have commenced medication last evening.

The inquiry about the theft of the seals has come to nothing. No notice, we believe, has been taken of the circumstances under which the room was forced opened, without the knowledge of the King or the Agent, and before the arrival of the Police.

A CORRESPONDENT sends the following account from Berhampore :—

The Lieutenant-Governor and suite arrived at Berhampore on Wednesday at 11 A. M. Salute was fired when the *Rhagus* dropped anchor in the Ganjghat—most of the native gentlemen and a few only of the Europeans were present at the Ghat to receive him. Some officers went on board. His Honor came on shore after twelve, when four addresses were presented to which His Honor replied briefly. Three P. M. was fixed for the Levee; as there was no restraint, anybody and everybody went to it. After which three memorials were submitted, among them was one alleged to be from Jagut Settni praying to His Honor to recognise her adopted son (poor lady! she has lost her head since her husband's death; fancy her sending up memorials on such matter!) Taking into consideration that a civil suit is pending in the Subordinate Judge's Court to set aside this adoption, this memorial seems to be premature and the Collector who seems to be backing her up should not have allowed the matter to proceed so far till the decision of the Court. His Honor then left for a drive; I dare say he must have been charmed with it, considering the advantages of beautiful and smooth roads and the sights of the magnificent Barracks intercepted by fine trees and a large clean velvety maidan to boot,—a very few mofussil station can boast of such delightful acquisitions. Mr. ANDERSON entertained the distinguished

party to a dinner to which all the European officials, the Nabob Bahadur and a few Nizamut princes were also invited. Four toasts were proposed but unfortunately, by an oversight, it seems that the host's health was left out. After dinner, was to come off the Evening party. It was timed at 9-30 P. M., but very strangely the native gentlemen's patience was tried to the utmost and they had to wait outside till 11 P. M. To add to their inconvenience drizzling rain came off at the time, there being only three tents, the guests numbering over 250 did not know where to shelter themselves from rain, and as their last resource, they invaded the solemn drawing room. The party broke up at twelve. Another thing, which is much to be regretted, is that there was present in the party a spectacle of a motley crowd from a prince to a peasant, from a Zemindar to a shopkeeper, all equally were to be seen there. The fault lies not with the Collector, but with a Deputy Collector who was entrusted with the despatch of invitation cards. Surely he ought to have exercised his discretion in selecting guests as having the pretension of perfect knowledge of the district.

THE Marine Court has not yet done with the *Sir John Lawrence* Enquiry. The Court sat the whole of this week from Monday to Friday, and took down the depositions of Baboos BUNGO BEHARY BOSE, and ASHUTOSH CHATTERJEE who had been on board the lost vessel to see their relatives off, Mr. ROBERT BUSHBY, the Surveyor of the Port and the Port Commissioners' Engineer-Surveyor to the Port, Mr. JOHN MOORE, master of the *Curlew*, and Baboo CHUNDER COOMAR BHUTTACHARJEE who with his party was refused passage by the said vessel. We republish elsewhere from the *Englishman* the proceedings of Monday, and reproduce here what much the astute Brahman chose to inform the public through the Court.

"Chunder Coomar Bhuttacharjee examined, said: I went alongside the S. S. *Sir John Lawrence* before she left the last time. It was 8, or 8-30 P. M. of the evening previous to her starting on her last voyage. I reached the ghat at 8-30. It took me some time to engage a boat. When I was on my way I heard the gun fire. I had intended to go with my family and some of my neighbours to Chandbally, on a pilgrimage to Juggannath. There were altogether two boats with us. Our party consisted of 20 people, including a little daughter of mine. When I went alongside I saw a European and two or three lascars standing on a scaffolding on the side of the vessel. Passengers from one of the boats were getting on to the steamer. One of the *sahibs*, a European, said to me 'you can't come now.' I spoke to the *sahib* in Hindustani, saying that I would be very much disappointed if I were not allowed to go on board the vessel. I begged of him to be good enough to take me on board the vessel. He said there was already a very large number. His language was '*Bohuth admi hooa, toom ko nahit lega.*' I coaxed, begging of him to take me. He at last said 'If you don't listen to me I will give you a good caning.' I then said 'what is to become of these tickets of mine? I hold both kinds of tickets. These for Rs. 3-0-6, and Rs. 5-0-6.' He said 'you will get back your money.' Then the lascars pushed my boat away from the side of the vessel. I was sadly disappointed. I came back to the ghat. We remained in a godown near the Koilah Ghat, the ladies refusing to return to the house then, stating that they had started on a pilgrimage. About 6 o'clock the other two steamers left for Chandbally. The S. S. *Sir John Lawrence* left last. Afterwards I made over the tickets to realize my money, which I got back. I have not got all the money. My friends have got all the money. I went to a ghat from where a steamer was to leave for Midnapur. I went by this steamer to Midnapur, going to Juggannath by land. There was no police boat when I went alongside the *Sir John Lawrence*. Neither did I see any policemen. These different tickets were for the same class of accommodation. The value of the tickets rose. On the first day, I bought tickets for Rs. 3-0-6 each; on the following day I had to pay Rs. 5-0-6. After this the tickets were sold for Rs. 6. Even the men who bought Rs. 6 tickets could not find accommodation in the vessel.

Cross-examined by Mr. Henderson: I bought these tickets at the office of Messrs. Macneill and Company. I saw only one boat with passengers. This was the boat from which the passengers were getting on board. I did not see any boat returning from the *Sir John Lawrence*. I do know what uniform the river police wear. They wear black. I cannot describe the colour, though I have seen them. This *sahib* looked very much like Mr. Brown, of Messrs. Thacker Spink & Co., where I was employed. The police boat is manned by more oars with brass mountings. That is the reason that I said that I saw no police boats."

The Court will sit again on Monday at 12-30 P. M. The Ghoses and Boses early made themselves scarce, and the rest of the true blues, Kayasth or Brahman, show no disposition to enter appearance. Laterly, Messrs. MACNEILL & Co. have been represented by Mr. HENDERSON. We hope this means no want of confidence in Mr. ORR, who so far as we saw acted his part thoroughly.

WE have already acknowledged the relief Rs. 95 granted, through us, to HEM CHUNDER BHUTTACHARJEE by the *Retriever* and *Sir John Lawrence* Relief Committee. We have this week to announce Rs. 75

for KHERODE Bewah, Rs. 100 for CHAMPA Bewah and Rs. 125 for SRI KUMARI, or a total of Rs. 300.

AS might be anticipated, Mr. Commissioner SMITH's effort quietly to "digest" a consummated Notification, has not gone without protest. The aggrieved Commissioner of the Baranagar Municipality, upon whom a mine has been silently sprung, has taken alarm and has indignantly appealed to Government. Sir STEUART BAYLEY and Mr. Secretary MACAULAY have in this a difficult business, with consequences on local self-government.

THE event of the week in Bengal has passed away without notice. Surely, at this time of day, after the completion of the Victorian half-century, we ought to be able to estimate more adequately than our predecessors in the past could be expected to do, the importance of a scientific movement. Yet the birth of the Microscopic Society has caused no more interest in Calcutta than the birth, in 1645, in London, of that Society for improving natural knowledge which since took rank at the head of English institutions of the kind, excited at the time in the English metropolis. The Press is silent and the public in general are necessarily ignorant that anything has been the matter in any direction. Yet there has been a birth—a safe delivery of possibly an infant Hercules, certainly a healthy child of promise—destined, we devoutly trust, to years of usefulness. The only public notice vouchsafed to the interesting brat is a five inch local paragraph in the metropolitan leading journal, which, however, does not make the usual reference in its leading columns to its own report. The *Englishman* at any rate gives what is equivalent to a fair and full notice of the "Domestic Occurrence" kind, *gratis*. But as if because our contemporary did not add anything equivalent to "—Papers, please copy," the other journals passed over the matter, apparently glad to utilise their space by inserting another boring epistle on the RUKMAHAT case—the Gorham business of our day.

After all, the fact of the matter is that the Society has been too quietly hatched. The movement has proceeded like a silent stream in the great forest. The modesty of the promoters has been almost extreme. To our mind, this augurs well of the project. It shows that they are in earnest, and dominated by almost a painful sense of responsibility. They are in fact a few students of science banded together to work without fuss. There was not the most distant approach to ostentation at the inaugural meeting. It was held on Monday evening, in a small room between the upper and the nether storeys of the Indian Museum. You might search through that tropical forest of architecture without coming upon the haunt of these conspirators—against human ignorance. The decorations of the room are forbidding, consisting of hundreds of death's heads ranged in order in huge show cases! There were in all 26 persons present, including two members of the press. The President, Dr. SIMPSON, delivered quietly and clearly a clear business-like and convincing opening address. He next went into the subject of certain microscopic insects found in butter, even the best butter. Mr. MEAD followed on the subject as one who had pursued the same inquiry, giving his experiences and his theory on them. This theory was combatted in the happiest style by the Secretary Mr. SIMMONS, who has really a most pleasant manner and a sweet voice for such small audiences. The whole business terminated with an invitation to all present to see the ugly creatures that lurk in your food, without notice or suspicion, through the glass tubes.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 1887.

### THE PERMANENT SETTLEMENT.

AND

### ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

THE Local Government of Bengal has, from time to time, endeavoured to break up and do away with the Permanent Settlement of Bengal, and all manner of specious arguments have been urged on the Government by the local Government to effect this purpose. Of course, all through these communications and discussions, the Local Government has wilfully closed its eyes to the simple consideration that such an

abolition of the Permanent Settlement would be a gross and impolitic breach of faith to all the Zemindars of Bengal. For one might just as well argue that the land of all the 600 large landed proprietors of England (many of whom acquired their property originally in grants from the crown) should have their lands in a measure taken from them, and a new and periodically increasing land tax assessed upon them. Yet this is what the Covenanted Civil Service wish to do with regard to the Permanent Settlement of Bengal, and for what reason? It is not merely to obtain a large amount of revenue to the state, but, what is of more importance to that autocratic body, to throw open more high paid appointments for the members of their service, to give them greater power over the larger and more wealthy Zemindars of Bengal, such power as is often exercised in the North West, where a wealthy Zemindar, with a proper dread of his Collector, scarcely dares to call his land his own. The up-country landlord, if the word is applicable to him, may possibly get on for a time. But he well knows his fate at the next settlement if he does not keep his Collector Sahib in good humour: he will in all probability find his land either very highly assessed or even over assessed. In proof of what I state, the following will be very applicable. On one occasion, an uncle of mine claimed the possession of an estate which had been for some time *Korak tahsil*. Even the Revenue Board could not find any flaw in the title and was bound to admit that the claims of the HEARSEYS were incontestable, but the Board was equal to the situation. They next put their heads together to discover how to dispossess the rightful claimants in a legal manner. So one honest member of that most honest of Indian tribunals, it was Mr. CHICHELY PLOWDEN, M. P., suggested, in an official minute, that, under the circumstances, it would be advisable to overassess the HEARSEYS and, when they could not pay, sell them up. And this is the man whom some of the Indian journals claimed as a friend of India—because he had entered Parliament in the Liberal, nay Radical, Gladstonian interest! Another individual, when applied to for his advice in the matter, Sir HENRY RAMSAY, Commissioner of Kumaon, was a shade more honest. His advice was to give the Tharoo cultivators, in the adjoining Government waste lands rent free lands; and in this way the Hearsey lands would be deserted and they would not be able to pay their Government revenue and the Government could confiscate the property. These statements can be proved, as my uncle at the time, through judicious agents, obtained copies of these minutes; and my argument is, if they would dare to treat an English Zemindar in this dishonest manner, what hope would a native Zemindar have of being treated fairly! Russia would have confiscated their property outright, England would have cheated the owner out of it, that is, I won't say England but Indian Government officials. Is any wonder then that the Zemindars of Bengal are fighting their best to retain the Permanent Settlement and not to let in, as Sir ALFRED LYALL has it in his Old Pindarrie,

"The crowd of hungry chuprassies and greedy sons of the quill,  
"I paid them the bribe they wanted."

And again:—

I'll rather be robbed by a tall man who shewed me a yard of steel,  
Than be fleeced by a cunning Ameen and a peon with a badge at his heel.

I have a scheme which, if it were carried out, I

think would suit all parties, and which most of the wealthy Zemindars of Bengal would be much more willing to adopt than to allow the Permanent Settlement to be broken by the institution of periodical assessments. On the part of Government, the scheme would have still greater weight, as they would in a monetary and financial point of view be considerable gainers. Perhaps, the only people to suffer would be the Covenanted Civil Service, and no good Government have any right to allow the advantages and privileges of a few paid servants to stand in the way of actual benefits to the State and to the nation.

Our scheme is this. With respect to the Permanent Settlement of Bengal, let it be added by way of a rider to the Regulations, that all Zemindars who are desirous of purchasing the fee simple of their estates can do so by paying to the Government a sum equal to the capitalized revenue of their estate for a period which shall be honestly and fairly fixed by the Government—be it 25 or be it 30 years. The Government on their part shall execute a deed in favor of the Zemindars foregoing all right to tax the land of those who have thus bought out the fee simple, and the land so purchased shall be theirs absolutely for ever.

The Permanent Settlement of Bengal may be roughly taken to yield to the Government the sum of Rs. 3,00,00,000 per annum. This capitalized at thirty years' purchase would represent the sum of Rs. 90,00,00,000. The interest alone of this sum at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., the amount now paid by the Government on their loans, would amount to Rs. 95,00,000 per annum alone. The Government by paying up all their 4 and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. loans could get money at 3 per cent, for if there were no Government Securities at 4 and  $4\frac{1}{2}$ , the public would invest in the 3 per cent. rather than leave their superfluous cash idle. Again, if the Government found it more advantageous, they could invest this sum in the Indian Railways and Municipal Loans which on an average give them a clear  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent per annum, and which Railways and Municipal Loans are, wherever they are constructed and contracted, for the advantage and convenience of the nation. So, in paying off loans at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent and borrowing at 3, the Government would be gainers of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent interest per annum. And again borrowing at 3 and laying out in Railways and Municipal Loans, which give an average of about  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent profit per annum, the actual gain of Government would be about 5 per cent per annum—a sum quite sufficient in itself alone to pay the establishment we are about to suggest for the administration of law and justice in Bengal.

There can be no doubt that the government is overdone with absurdly overpaid Covenanted Civilians, not only in Bengal but all over India. Bengal being the most forward and most highly educated and enlightened Province of the Empire, it is most fitted for the adoption of the scheme I propound and without hurt or danger to the Empire. The experiment I here suggest might be easily tried and, if proved a success, could be eventually extended to the remaining Provinces as found practicable and advantageous.

First and foremost, the post of Commissioner is one that might, without danger to the machinery of the Empire, be readily abolished. The office of Commissioner is simply a reference office and often proves to be nothing better than a circumlocution office so ably described by Dickens in his "Little Dorrit." There being no settlement and no collections to make on that account, the office of Collector

might be likewise done away with. Now comes the point how is law and justice to be administered, the Commissioner and Collector. "with their swarm of hungry chuprassies and greedy sons of the quill" being a thing of the past? We would recommend that Civil and Criminal Moonsiffs and Assistant Judges should be appointed to hear Civil and Criminal cases; appeals from their Courts being heard before Civil Judges, these Civil Judges being appointed from the barristers and pleaders of the Indian bar, from men of known ability and probity, the position of High Court Judge being held out to them as the reward of legal knowledge and proficiency and conduct and temper whilst on the bench. The number of Honorary Magistrates for the trial of petty cases could be increased and the office put on the status of Justices of the Peace in England. These officers are to hear cases with power to commit to monthly sessions held by the Assistant Judges, which sessions could be held at convenient places in the respective districts and towns. These places, as needed, could be visited by the Circuit Judges. One more point: these Assistant and Civil Judges to be selected from the bar, as we have already suggested, for their probity and ability and likewise for their colloquial knowledge of the dialect of the district in which they are employed. No Barrister or Pleader Judge to be selected until he has at least had 15 or 20 years' actual practice at the bar in the Province in which he wishes to be employed as an Assistant Judge or a Circuit Judge. In the manner we suggest, the Civil Judge would be able to perform more than double the work of the present highly paid, overpaid Doltles of the Covenanted Civil Service.

With regard to the Justices of the Peace and Honorary Magistrates. Now-a-days, there is scarcely any large town in Bengal that does not contain some English-speaking and English-writing Native gentlemen who can speak and write the English language almost as well as Englishmen do, quite well enough to take down evidence in the English language. Thus more than one half of the annual outlay for the present Covenanted Civil Service would be saved to the advantage of the revenues of the empire and the lessening of the annually increasing sums that these revenues have to pay for pensions in England with the Rupee at 15  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. In most simple cases to take evidence two or three Justices of the Peace could be associated together on the bench, and this system would make the ordinary administration of justice very like the national one of Panchayets. In important cases, such as house-breaking, dacoitee and murder, 5 Justices of the Peace should sit, the senior, being president, to have the casting vote for committal or release on insufficient evidence. The doing away of the appointments of Commissioner and Collector and the reorganizing the pay code of Moonsiffs, Assistant Judges and Circuit Judges, should, with reduction of the rate of interest  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent, effect a saving of at least £10,000,000 sterling to the revenues of the Empire.

Appeals, both Criminal and Civil, should lie from the Circuit Judges' Courts to the High Court, which should be composed of a Chief Justice, appointed in every case from England, one half of the Puisne Judges should be appointed from the Bar in England and one half from the Circuit Judges. And in all cases where intricate points of Indian law and procedure were brought before the High Court, the Court of appeal should consist of one English Barrister Puisne Judge and one Indian bar Puisne Judge, and this

should especially be the case in any suit in which the Government of India had any interest. No Civilian whatsoever should in any case be appointed a High Court Judge, as it would be easier for a negro to change his skin than for the Covenanted Civil Servants in general to divest themselves of their proclivities and prejudices in favor of the Government.

With regard to local rates and cesses,\* with which Zemindars are charged, these should strictly be applied to the improvement of the province in which the taxes are levied and not appropriated to the imperial revenues for general purposes. One point more. As we have already shewn that the Zemindar should be permitted to purchase his land from the State landlord in fee simple at 25 or 30 times the yearly rents he pays to that landlord, so in like manner should the cultivator have the right of purchasing his fields from the Zemindar by paying 25 or 30 times the actual annual rent he pays.

ANDREW HEARSEY.

### THE FIRE MIRACLE IN THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH.

ON the 28th June was performed, at the Dharma Raj Temple at Nellore, the "dreadful ceremony," as it is called, of fire-treading. The ceremony seems to excite in the South the same interest as the car or the swinging festival in the North or rather the North-East. A rumour got abroad that the Musical Doctor in charge of the District had prohibited the fiery ordeal, and the vast crowd, assembled to witness the miracle rather than worship at the temple, were showing audible symptoms of indignation at this interference with their rites and ceremonies, when the Grand Panjandram himself came that way. It now appeared that the great Collector did not forbid it but had only deferred it. He was out in the neighbourhood making settlements and he would take advantage of the opportunity to see the fun. So the ceremony at the temple had been postponed to suit his convenience. As soon, however, as Mr. MACLEANE was on the spot, music was struck up and the procession began. In the large plain before the temple, is the fiery pit in sight of the idols brought out of the temple and placed in a conspicuous place, like Roman emperors presiding at a gladiatorial feat. The procession goes round the pit and then round the effigies of the gods. Again and again they repeat the circumambulation, gathering courage for the dreadful trial and stretching on tension the expectant souls of the reverent sight-seers. Even the unbelieving are dumb-founded by the noise of drum and bell and the strange calm in the faces of the devoted men in procession, lighted up by the red glare of the burning pit. At length, the procession comes to a stand at the Eastern side of the fiery enclosure. The appointed number of rounds has been finished and the notable business of the day is about to take place. Again, a deafening peal of discordant instruments, and now loud incantations rend the air. Before the roar has subsided, the thing has commenced—the aged Brahman leader has put his right foot foremost into it. He is in no hurry as if anxious to be out of a dangerous game as soon as possible, but walks slowly to the Western end. So little is he afraid that he wheels round and appears at his starting point, ready for the fray once more. Nor he alone. His followers in the procession are all so many heroes like him. They now followed him in his walks over the fire. This peripatetic exercise over burning coals, was several times gone through, by all of them, without an accident or a scratch, or a single case of flinching. For the head-priest and his loyal band seemed to enjoy the feat. The tinkling of the silver bells and the roar of many voices had an agreeable influence on the hoary-headed man.

Soothed with the sound the priest grew vain,  
Stirred all his cinders o'er again ;

And thrice he shamed his foes ; and thrice he crossed the  
fiery plain.

At last when the ordeal was gone through to the satisfaction of the most sceptical, they proceeded in a body to the gods, their leader putting a chain of flowers round the neck of Dharmaraj, the presiding divinity of the temple and special protector of the country. Thus the ceremony came to a close, with music and the shouts of the multitude.

\* That account of the Dharmaraj festival has no doubt an anthropologic importance, and even a scientific one too. To our Bengali readers in particular, it will commend itself. They will not fail to notice, how, under its infinite variations according to time, place and race, it is continually apt to be homogeneous. We have a similar fiery ordeal here, but not at the same time, though possibly in the same connection. It is held previous to the Charak festival, towards the end of the preceding month of festive austerities, as one of the ceremonies introductory to the crowning feat of self-torture—the swinging business.

This takes place not towards the end of June but about the beginning of April. We have ourselves in our boyhood witnessed this fiery ordeal and remember it well. But there are points of difference between the Northern ceremony and the Southern ceremony, as related above on the authority of the *Hindu's* correspondent. Here there is no grand temple of Dharmaraj, but there is a tradition of a Dharma Thakoor, once worshipped by princes and still revered by the masses in the rural districts. The enterprising proprietors of the *Bangabasi* have rescued from loss a great popular epic which is still sung in parts and listened to in the villages of the interior as a devout exercise. Ancient trees, and blocks of stone lying in some thoroughfare, are sometimes spoken of as the receptacles of the great Dharmaraj or Dharma Thakoor. By others of the poorer classes, the great Siva represented by stone *lingams* in village temples, is identified with Dharma. Hence, as the torturing festival culminating in the swinging aloft in the air on the Charak pooja, as it is called, is held in honor of Siva, the fiery trial which is a part of the month-long festival, the whole seems to be in reality a festival of Dharma, gradually misappropriated to the more revered Hindu god Siva—probably by Saivas—devotees of Siva—in power. The tendency is to Hinduise, pre-Hindu and extra Hindu myths and divinities, and merge Nonaryan relics in the Aryan. Siva himself seems to be an aboriginal object of worship—a Nonaryan deified; but he has long since been entered into the Hindu pantheon and indeed into the Hindu trinity, and identified as the Vedic Rudra. Dharma has not yet passed his doubtful vulgar stage. The Puranists have not utilised him. No Hindu stories cling round his name. There are a few stray notices of Dharma, but they amount to no more than a vague personification, now of Duty, now of Truth, and anon of Religion. Hence his little hold on the general Hindu world. At any rate, he seems to be the same antique Dravidian Aristides who is worshipped in his temple at Nellore. At one time, before aboriginalism had been suppressed, he was probably the prevailing object of worship throughout the South and as far up as all Bengal Proper even unto the frontier lands. It is thus that we have the same fiery ordeal in Bengal as that at Nellore.

Here, as we have observed it, the *suanyasees*, as the takers of the vow of self-infliction during the last month of the Hindu year are called, assemble of an evening before the *lingam*. A great fire is made in the court, and this is stirred and thrown about by the *suanyasees* till the whole plain in front of the spectators is one mass of living coals. But not all the *suanyasees*. Some of them fought shy of the fiery business, but the older hands seemed to delight in stirring and throwing about the fire and walking briskly through it. They seemed to bear, if not charmed lives, at least fire-proof soles.

### THE SECRET HISTORY OF MR. A. L. ROY'S AMERICAN PAMPHLET.

In a letter from the Author to the Editor of "Reis & Rayyet."

#### AN EXPLANATION.

While thanking you for the very flattering expression of opinion in regard to my humble self which appeared in your issue of July 30th, and a great part of which my modesty forbids me to appropriate, I beg of you to allow me to correct an erroneous impression which one passage in your remarks might be twisted to convey. The passage has reference to the appearance of my contribution to the *North American Review* and runs as follows :—

"The essay was a thing produced to order—an American attack on England respecting her government of India by the hand of an Indian depending at the moment on American help. Not that there were in it no traces of his genuine views, but they were distorted out of proportion and exaggerated into something very unlike. The original draught offered had been returned by the editor as too favorable to England. The poor Indian submitted to the dictation as the only way open to him to purchase the means for returning to his native land."

I remember having once had a conversation with you upon the subject, and if I left you with the impression reproduced in the above passage, let me make haste to correct it in justice not so much



to myself as to my American friend, the editor, or rather the assistant editor, of the *North American Review*.

It is true that the article in question was written to order. It is also true that my first draft was refused. But the order was given and accepted, not to gratify American spite against England, nor to fill up my purse, but for the sole object of drawing attention to the subject of India's government by England. Indeed, the proprietor and nominal editor of the *Review*, Mr. Allen Thorndyke Rice, is a man more of pro-English sympathies than otherwise, having been educated at Oxford, and spending at least three months in the year in England; while the assistant editor and editor *de facto*, Mr. James Redpath, is a Scotchman by birth, one of the few Scotchmen I have known who possessed a heart. Perhaps I could not better serve my purpose than by reproducing as near as I can recollect the conversation that I had with this latter gentleman on the occasion. It might have an interest of its own beyond its connection with the subject of this letter.

Said Mr. Redpath after having gone through my first manuscript: "Well, Friend Roy, this is all very nice and good. It is an excellent essay. But that's all that can be said of it. This sort of stuff won't fetch—I don't mean the money, for you can have as much money as you need, or more if you want—but I mean it won't fetch an audience. And that's what you have got to do. What we mean by an article is not a milk-and-water compound like this that won't choke anybody, but we mean a thing with plenty of flesh and blood in it."

On my suggesting that in that case I might appear one-sided, he remarked:

"Fiddlesticks! One-sided! Shew me the reaction that was not one-sided. The only value of a Hindu's article on English rule in India is to shew the reaction that rule has produced in the mind of the Indian people. Your only value, or that of any Indian, in American or European eyes, is that you represent a reaction, a *force*. You say that the sum total of English rule in India is *injustice*. And unless you can shew that you *feel* it, that you *resent* it, that you cannot bear it, you cannot expect other people, least of all Anglo-Saxons, to sympathize with you. We, Anglo-Saxons, are too busy and unsentimental a people to bother ourselves with the thought of other men's miseries when they themselves seem to be pretty well content with their lot.

"Now, mark here another thing. We, Anglo-Saxons, preach the gospel of peace, but we believe in the gospel of force. We profess Jesus Christ, who died for other men, but we worship Herbert Spencer and Darwin, who have shewn us how we might *live upon* other men. We take no interest in any one who cannot do us harm. And never forget that if you want to get anything out of the Anglo-Saxon, you must not put out your tongue to shew how well you can lick, but shew your fang, and threaten him with a bite."

I asked how I was to proceed. He answered,

"There is only one way, the only sure way, if you want ever to accomplish anything by means of the pen. Throw away your ink-bottle, and dip your pen in the red blood of your heart! Never write like an amateur. Marshall your forces for the purpose not of a *review*, but of an attack."

And so it was done. The article that was refused had cost me three weeks, the one that was accepted was finished in less than three days. And it was on my way to the steamer that brought me homewards that I left the first proof at the office. My friend, the heard-headed but soft-hearted Scotchman, was in ecstasies of joy. He said that he had not been an editor in vain, that it was a glorious day on which he could give a chance to the poor Hindu, and that he regarded that as his personal atonement for all the iniquities committed in India under the auspices, as it were, of that most heartless class of men, the Scotch Political Economists.

Personally I am not sorry that the article was written as it appeared. It was a one-sided, exaggerated version no doubt, and the production of a young man of twenty-seven; but there was not a single word in it that I did not fully believe and feel at the time. And I fully believe even now that it would not have drawn the attention it did if it had been written in what is called a sober style. The truth was exaggerated in it, but it was meant for people possessed of the eyes of a mole.—Yours respectfully,

AMRITA LAL ROY.

#### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 23rd July 1887.—Mr. C. R. Marindin, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Dinagopore, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 22nd August next, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

The 26th July 1887.—Baboo Radha Madhub Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Ranaghat, Nuddea, is transferred to the Sudder station of that district.

Baboo Khetter Gopal Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purneah, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of Nuddea.

This cancels the order of the 19th instant appointing Baboo Khetter Gopal Roy to have charge of the Chooadanga sub-division.

The 28th July 1887.—Baboo Probhat Nath Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakholly, is allowed furlough for one year, under section 132, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st August next, or from such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. H. R. H. Cox, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Naraingunge, Dacca, is allowed leave for two months and twenty days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Mr. A. P. Pennell, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Dacca, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Naraingunge sub-division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. H. R. H. Cox, or until further orders.

Mr. N. Warde-Jones, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Giridih sub-division in the district of Hazaribagh.

The 29th July 1887.—Mr. A. E. Harward, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Hajipore, Mozufferpore, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors.

The 30th July 1887.—Mr. A. Earle, c. s., has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of furlough for two months on sick certificate.

The 1st August 1887.—Mr. W. Maude, Officiating Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Shahabad, is allowed leave from the forenoon of the 26th May to the forenoon of the 5th July 1887, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code.

Mr. J. Beames, Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, is appointed to be Commissioner of the Bhagulpore Division.

Mr. N. S. Alexander, Commissioner of the Bhagulpore Division, is appointed to be Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

The 2nd August 1887.—Baboo Kali Prosad Chatterjee, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Burdwan, is transferred to Mozufferpore, with effect from the date on which he joined that appointment.

The order of the 28th June 1887, granting Baboo Gogan Chandra Das, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pooree, privilege leave for one month, is cancelled.

Mr. E. M. Lewis, Superintendent of Government Printing, Bengal, is allowed leave for two months and twenty days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 8th instant, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. W. Ross, Deputy Superintendent of the Presidency Jail Press, is appointed to act as Superintendent of Government Printing, Bengal, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. E. M. Lewis, or until further orders.

JUDICIAL.—The 28th July 1887. Mr. A. P. Pennell, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Naraingunge, Dacca, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class.

The 29th July 1887. Mr. A. E. Harward, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Hajipore, Mozufferpore, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

The 1st August 1887.—Baboo Kisori Mohun Sikdar, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Rungpore, to be ordinarily stationed at Gaibanda, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Jogendra Nath Mookerjee, or until further orders.

Baboo Koylash Chunder Mookerjee, First Subordinate Judge of Shahabad, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a Court up to the value of Rs. 500, within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Arrah and Buxar Munsifs.

Moulvie Shafuiddin Ahmed, Sub-Deputy Collector, Attia, Mymensingh, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

#### MARINE COURT.

##### The Loss of the *Sir John Lawrence*.

MONDAY, AUGUST 1.

The adjourned enquiry into the circumstances attending the loss of the S. S. *Sir John Lawrence* was resumed this day afternoon. Mr. Henderson, Barrister, instructed by Mr. Orr, watched the proceedings on behalf of Messrs. Macneill & Co. Examined by Mr. Kilby,

Bunko Behary Bose, said:—I went on board the S. S. *Sir John Lawrence* before she started on her last voyage with my brother's eldest daughter, the eldest Rani of the late Raja Opoorbo Krishna Bahadur, of Sabha Bazar, and some other neighbours, and one man servant and three maid servants who went to Chandbally, and three of my nephews returned with me, along with an Uria servant. It was about candlelight that I went on board with these people. The steamer's lamps were burning in the saloon. It was at 7 p. m. We went up the ladder from the port side. This party were going as first class passengers, except the servants and some of the neighbours. At first we tried to get on board by the starboard ladder, but this being awfully crowded, we got up on the other side. A

crowd of boats was there; we went by two dinghies. I did not observe a native country boat at landingstage on the port side. The people were making an awful noise. I did not see how they got upon the ladder. I did not notice any police boat, with any policeman in uniform among this crowd of boats. Nobody tried to prevent us when we were going up the port side ladder. I did not see any body else, except our party, go up the port ladder. We went on board at 7 p. m. I kept in the saloon, and also went above the saloon, where the servants were. I could see that the spar deck was full of passengers, who were going to Chandbally. There was hardly room to walk about. They were sitting packed close together. It struck 9 when I came ashore to the same ghat, which was Koilah Ghat. I did not see a police boat near the ship at any time.

Cross-examined by Mr. Henderson,---An arrangement was made on a previous Sunday that we should be allowed to go on board by the port side. We were armed with a letter to that effect. I saw more than twenty boats in a crowd. I don't know the difference between the boat and a police boat. I am sure I saw no policemen in uniform in any of the boats.

Examined by Mr. Kilby,---Aushootosh Chatterjee, said:---I was on board the S. S. *Sir John Lawrence* before she went on her last voyage. I think it was on Tuesday, the 24th of June. I went on board with my family. We first went at 5-30 p.m. with a party of five boats, to get on board. We went alongside the steamer on the starboard side. The lascars and crew said that they were taking in goods, and told us to go back ashore, and return again when we would be called. Our boat, however, remained alongside. My father was on board. We returned ashore, and when they whistled to us at night, most probably at 8 p.m., we returned on board. We went on board the steamer by the starboard side ladder. Our party consisted of 40 or 50 people, including women and children. Of these 30 were intending passengers, of whom four were men, the rest being women. We tried to get first class tickets, but, failing to do so, took deck passages. Our party grouped themselves round the foremast on the upper deck. I left after gun fire, and returned ashore. When we went on board there were some people. When I left the vessel at gunfire the upper deck was awfully crowded. It became so crowded that each person struggled for his own place. Those that came on board first, sat, the others who came afterwards had to stand. As far as I could see there was no room for persons to lie down. Those that were sitting were touching each other. This was the state of things on the upper deck. I heard frequent cries of distress about the overcrowding of the passengers. The females I heard were crying. I peeped down into the lower deck, and saw it was full of passengers also. They were less crowded than the people on the upper deck. The passengers were cruelly treated by the captain and the lascars. They used to catch the hands of the women, and push them along the deck. Some of the women fell while being pushed. I did not see any policeman in uniform in or near the ship either at the time I went or on my return. I am quite sure that I did not. I don't recollect whether the passengers were being counted. The captain was standing just below the ladder in the boat with a ship. It may have been a sick. If anybody tried to come down the ladder he would strike them.

To the Court,---My uncle told me that it was the captain. He was a short old man. He was a short stout man. We did not see anybody returning from the steamer ashore. While we were going on board none of us were stopped, because we were not going to Chandbally. When we came away both decks were very crowded.

Cross-examined by Mr. Henderson,---I don't know the exact number of our party who went as passengers. There were more than 20 or 30. They had all got tickets. My uncle had all the tickets. His name was Jogendro Nath Chatterjee. He simply told the captain that he had got tickets, mentioning no number. My uncle held up the tickets in his hand, when he spoke to the captain. I was nearly two hours on board. When I went on board there were many dinghies about. When I left I saw only three or four. I did not see any man alongside the short stout old man. This man was a stout man with whom my uncle spoke. I was cool, not flurried when I went on board. The cries of distress were "*Lapre, agoo bukho ga, moregalam ga, dala kobtai gala ga.*" They said that they could not return by the same way from pilgrimage. There cries of distress were not heard before the passengers went on board. I did not see any people fall into the river. I did not say that the

captain counted the passengers. Here the Court adjourned for tiffin.

Examined by Mr. Kilby---Robert Bushby, said:---I am Surveyor of this port; the Port Commissioners' Engineer-Surveyor to the Port. I passed my examination as Surveyor of Steamships for the Board of Trade. I was appointed, in 1874, as Shipwright Engineer-Surveyor to the Board of Trade. I practised in England as a surveyor until April 1882, to the Board of Trade. In London first, then in Hull and lastly six years in Liverpool. The Board of Trade nominated me as Engineer-Surveyor to the Port Commissioners. I am remunerated by salary. I am not allowed to take fees. My salary is Rs. 1,000 a month. My duties are to inspect steamships under Acts 6 and 7 of 1884, that is all sea-going and all inland steam vessels in the Port of Calcutta, all cooly emigrant vessels, under Act 21 of 1883, all ships or steamers applying for register under the Merchant Shipping Act; any ships reported to me unseaworthy under the Indian Merchant Shipping Act of 1880, or any other duty the Port Commissioners order me to do. The fees of all these various duties are paid to the Port Commissioners. The fees amount to about Rs 20,000 annually. I have an assistant surveyor, Mr. John McKellar, and also a shipwright, surveyor of boats. Mr. McKellar is my subordinate, and has to carry out my official directions. I am the final authority, and am responsible to Government or the Port Commissioners. No one supervises my work. My duties are to survey the ship, the machinery, hull, and the equipments of both iron and wooden ships. I passed an examination in the matter of rigging and gear in England. It is part of my duty to survey the ship while they are under repairs. If an owner intends building or repairing a ship which he intends to use hereafter as a passenger ship, he generally calls for me to survey the ship before it is launched. Sometimes I am asked to visit the vessel before the building is complete. This is done to save expense later on, which I might call for if I were not satisfied with the way the vessel was built. My interference is limited to seeing the vessel built strong enough. I don't trouble myself about her shape.

It is left entirely to my discretion to decide whether the vessel is strong enough or not to be a passenger vessel. The owner can appeal if my requirements are too stringent. No one else can call in question my action at all. I have known the *Sir John Lawrence* since 1884. I came out here in 1882, in my present appointment. I first came out under the impression that I would be an engineer-surveyor of the steam ships, which I had been accustomed to at Liverpool, which was confined to passenger steamers. In the beginning of 1883 I got emigrant ships added to my duties. I noticed the *Sir John Lawrence*, before she was repaired, lying in the river. I was consulted whether she would be repaired or not. I was asked to report on the condition of the vessel. I made a report and this went through the Port Commissioners. I think Mr. John McKinnon consulted me what amount it would take to repair her. I was not told whom the steamer belonged to. Before the repairs were begun, I was asked to report as to what repairs were necessary to get a certificate. My report is probably at the office. I can't say what date it bears. I can't say from memory when the steamer was built. Somewhere between 22 and 23 years. She was built in 1865. The *Sir John Lawrence* was an extra strong steamer as originally built. Her scantling was above the requirements of a ship classed 90 A1 at Lloyd's of A1 keel, and her garboard strake were exceptionally heavy, her plating quite a sixteenth heavier, and her shearplate one-eighth heavier, than ships of her tonnage would at present be. Her iron was a ten per cent better quality than they make iron now for shipplates. The requirements of a ship classed 90 A1 at Lloyd's for the garboard strake would be seven-sixteenths. The thickness of the *Sir John Lawrence* was originally ten-sixteenths. The sheer strake of a ship classed A1 at Lloyd's would be eight-sixteenths. It was five-eighths in the *Sir John Lawrence*. The bill strake of vessels classed at 90 A1 Lloyd's should be six six tenths and the bill strake of the *Sir John Lawrence* is seven six-tenths and the flat at the bottom the same thickness. In the *Sir John Lawrence* it was six sixteenth respectively.

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# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

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No. 286

## The Week.

THE Madras Government have made a forward movement. The following order has just been issued :—

"In modification of the orders contained in the Proceedings of Government recorded in the preamble, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council is now pleased, under instructions from the Government of India, to declare that native Indian subjects of the Queen are eligible for enrolment as Volunteers."

Proceedings of Government, Military Department, No. 4856, dated 2nd August 1880, are accordingly republished for general information.

'Separate Corps of Volunteers, or even companies consisting solely of Natives, are not desired. Nevertheless, if any of her Majesty's Native Indian subjects should desire to take their places amongst the members of a Volunteer Corps, understanding sufficiently the English language, adopting the uniform of the corps, and being willing and able to share in its duties, there will be no objection to their enrolment, in any corps willing to receive them.'

This decision will be communicated to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and to all Commandants of Volunteer Corps serving under the Madras Government."

Lord CONNEMARA has added another clear title to the love and gratitude of the people.

IN the House of Commons, Sir JOHN GORST, in reply to Sir THOMAS ESMONDE, denied that any uncourteous treatment had been shewn to the Indian Princes, either at the late Volunteer Review, or the Naval Review at Spithead. This is, of course, the usual official disclaimer.

MR. H. M. STANLEY, the *New York Herald* Special who has proved one of the most enterprising and successful of African explorers, is reported to be dead. But the report requires confirmation.

BOMBAY is mourning the death of the Honorable Sir MAXWELL MELVILL, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Member of the Council of the Governor of Bombay, who died on Friday the 5th instant. Mr. MELVILL arrived in India on 7th November, 1855, and in June 1869 he was appointed a Judge of the High Court, and became a member of Council in 1884. He was an able and accomplished man who had made a successful Judge. Latterly he had been one of Lord REAY'S most valuable and trusted colleagues. The departure of Sir W. WEDDERBURN and the death of Sir M. MELVILL leave the Government of Bombay distantly weak.

MR. WESTLAND took his seat as Finance Minister, under the usual salute, on the 9th instant. Mr. BARBOUR could not come out till December.

THE Nizam has been charmed with Colonel MARSHALL'S four months' service, and has, with the permission of the Viceroy, increased the military Secretary's pay to Rs. 3,000 a month—by way, doubtless, of compliment to the recognition of the native charmer.

ONE Mr. BELLAIRS claims to have found a gold field, not second to the Colar, in the district of Honnali.

PROFESSOR BOURNE, of the Madras Presidency College, has, after many—we hope not painful—experiments, arrived at the conclusion that scorpions do not commit suicide when exposed to fire, and that their sting is not fatal to other scorpions. The next turn is the *savants* of the Christian College, to prove, by equally patient and incontestible

observation that, in order to obtain means for indulging in their proverbial drinking habits, fishes do not actually commit criminal misappropriation under the Penal Code. After that, it will be time for the Pachecappah Pandits to prove that peacocks—those notoriously vain people—do not go to the length of committing forgery in order to be able to keep up appearances. Are they in the Benighted Presidency just now oppressed with too much leisure?

£6,318,000 were remitted to the Home Treasury from 1st April to 6th August 1887.

NEXT month, the Viceroy and Lady DUFFERIN stray to Narkanda for an excursion.

THE activity in the manufacture of paper in Germany has produced a glut in the market, and the consequent low price. To clear off the stock, the works are to be stopped for a month.

SEVERAL cases of cholera are reported among the garrison at Kohat, Peshawur, Mussoorie, Ranikhet and Almora have also been visited this season by that disease.

THE Langworthy scandal has terminated in Court. Mr. LANGWORTHY tenders an apology, pays immediately twenty thousand pounds for breach of promise of marriage, and five hundred pounds a year for support and education of the child.

A STUDENT of a Calcutta school was brought up before the Chief Magistrate for being drunk on the public streets. He pleaded guilty and was fined Rs. 2. He had been charged before for the same offence and also convicted of theft. A fine school that which has produced such a precious example of precocity!

OF the Jubilee presents to the Queen, Holkar gave her a necklace of pearls; the Rao of Cutch a silver jug, with cup jewelled with emeralds; the Maharajah of Cooch Behar a gold and ivory work-box, with a brooch formed of a carved ruby, surrounded by pearls; the Thakur of Gondal a silver vase; the Nawab Zaffer Jung a gold cup and stand of Bidree work; the Nawab Asman Jah a gold salver; and the Bhurtpore Maharajah an address in a jewelled *khurita*.

MR. GRANT, the Sessions Judge of Hooghly, has sentenced SRIMANIA Nandigrami to five years' rigorous imprisonment, under Sections 361 and 339, for kidnapping a girl from the lawful guardianship of her mother without her consent, and wrongfully confining her for the purpose of clandestinely marrying her with his son. The defence put up was that there was marriage with the consent of the girl's mother. But the marriage was not proved. The Jury returned a verdict of guilty by four against one.

It is reported in the *Statesman* from Midnapore under date the 6th, that "Owing to very heavy rains there has been a considerable rise in the rivers of this district. For two days no country boats ventured to cross one of them, the Cossye. Both the Cossye and the Silye have breached their embankments—the former a little below Panscurah, and the latter close to the Ghattal sub-divisional building. Ghattal, a portion of Cossijorah, and Moyna are in consequence again under water this year. It is feared that relief operations will have to be opened. No loss of lives is reported; but loss of property is considerable."

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

THE *Fort St. George's Gazette* announces the appointment of Mr. PALLI CHENTSUL RAO PANTULU, C. I. E., as an Additional Member of the Council of the Presidency for making Laws and Regulations. A most able and worthy man.

NEWS comes from Bombay that the Parsis of Calcutta are organising a Fund for the proper means and appliances for carrying their dead. Mr. BYKAMJEE JEEJEEBHAY, C.S.I., of Bombay, has contributed Rs. 12,000 in aid of the Fund. It is time that there should be some organization here for carrying the Hindu dead. The influence of English civilization has blunted the edge of the old neighbourly feeling of sympathy and assistance in matters of marriage and death as in others, although it has not gone far enough so as to rid us of the inconvenient customs connected with them.

WEALTHY parents beware !—

"A merchant, an old man in Jaggayapett, had an adopted son with whom he was not on good terms, owing to some difference in money matters. This son and his family left his adopted father's house in consequence. One night, after partaking of meals, the father, mother, cook, and another fell ill and all died, with the exception of the cook, who was brought round by the treatment of the civil apothecary. It subsequently transpired that the son was seen in the kitchen of his father's house on the fatal night, and it is suspected that he introduced poison into the food. The chemical examination disclosed that the poison used was strychnine."

Such unnatural sons are not so uncommon as people are apt to think. We had a school fellow, now rolling in wealth, who used constantly to express his impatience for his father's death. There is another wretch in town who actually, in deliberate cold blood, killed his father for lucre, and escaped by the kindness of a virtuous Police.

IN a Shiraz correspondence in the *Bombay Gazette* occurs the following :

"Two Persian merchants of long standing have failed here with liabilities amounting it is estimated to four hundred thousand toman or upwards of a million and a half of rupees. The bankrupts carried on an extensive trade with Europe, India and China, and had branch establishments at Bombay and Hong Kong. In consequence of the failure of these merchants it is rumoured in the bazaars that several small mercantile firms which have had business relations with them will follow suit. Within the last five or six years several large commercial houses have come to grief, and it is the opinion of many who are in a position to know that at present there are very few merchants in Shiraz who may be thoroughly relied upon. The members of the two bankrupt firms have, I hear, been ordered up to Ispahan by H. I. H. Zelle-Soltan in order that their books may be properly looked into for the benefit of the unfortunate creditors."

THE Bhakkur Malakwal section of the Sind Sagur Loop Line of the North Western Railway, is available for all kinds of traffic since the 1st instant. It is one of the frontier protection railways. Commencing at Mozaffarabad, it runs in a northerly direction to Licah, Bhakkur, and Kundhan, from which station it takes an easterly course past Khushab, and then follows the northern bank of the river Jhelum, until it reaches Haraunpur, at which point the line is carried over the river by the recently completed Jhelum Bridge, and is continued due east until it joins the Panjval section of the North-Western Railway at Lala Musa, a station between Jhelum and Wazirabad. Three branches of various lengths leave this loop line, running to Bhora, Khewra (for the salt flats), and to Kuraishi for Dehra Ghazi Khan, all of which are open for traffic.

THE *Madura Mail's* Cuddalore correspondent writes :—

"The civil suit in connection with the right to demolish and rebuild the Sabai in the Chidambaram temple between the Nattukottai Chetties and a section of the Dikshadars is now before the High Court. The District Judge decided in favor of the Nattukottai Chetties and the priests have appealed against this decision. There are two parties among the priests known as Periakatchi and Chinnakatchi. The former of whom back the Chetties. A fresh suit has now been filed in the District Court by the Periakatchi against the Chinnakatchi that certain jewels of the temple have been misappropriated by the latter. Issues in this case were framed on Friday last. Hon'ble Raja T. Rama Rao and Mr. C. Richandra Rao Sahib appeared for the defendants and Mr. Kumarsami Pillai of the local bar for the plaintiffs. This most important and sacred temple is now offering anything but a pleasant spectacle before the law Courts. The Vishnava Bramans of Tiruvanthipuram have hitherto been maintaining their exclusive proprietorship to the town. Under the orders of the President of the District Board, the main street of the town is being metalled and repaired. Consequently on this a quacking took place on Tuesday between the Brahmins and the servants of the District Board. In the heat of the fight the Local Fund Overseer, it appears, was roughly handled and insulted. It is a strange kind of proprietorship that these people claim."

THIS is the result of the Court's enquiry on the wreck of the *Tasmania* :

"London, August 8. The Wreck Commissioner, H. C. Rothery, delivered an exhaustive judgment in the *Tasmania* case. He finds the second officer chiefly blamable for the accident. More reckless navigation has seldom been brought under the notice of the Court, less care being shown than would be required on a small trading ship. The second officer's certificate is suspended for two years.

The third officer is found wanting in his duty in not bringing back the life-boat, in allowing the crew to scatter, and setting a bad example in going inland.

The fourth officer was also to blame for going off in the life-boat, but his fault is somewhat redeemed by his persistent efforts to return to the ship.

Upon the general questions as to the managing and discipline of the ship, the court declares that Captain Perrins was quite equal to his duties, but he ought to have had six officers, giving two for each nightwatch. It is also suggested that there should be four instead of three European quarter-masters for these watches.

Competent and independent evidence has satisfied the Court that properly clad lascars are quite as good as European sailors even in danger and difficulty, in frost and snow. The lascar deck hands on the *Tasmania* were amply sufficient, and they alone of the crew conducted themselves thoroughly well. As regards getting out the boats, discipline was imperfect, but allowance must be made for the extreme danger and difficulty in which everybody was placed.

Mr. Andrews was not justified in leaving the ship. The mail boat ought immediately to have returned to the wreck and also the life-boat. Few of those ashore come out of the inquiry with credit. Mr. Andrews is among those most culpable with the second-class passengers. If the life-boat had returned and brought off another load the smoking-room might have held all the remaining persons, and so great loss of life might have been prevented.

The Court spoke admiringly of the great courage and gallantry of the chief officer and Major Cooper, and declared no fault was to be found with the conduct of the passengers left on the wreck.

It will be seen that the judgment amounts to a severe censure on the management of the ship, condemning as it does both the navigation and discipline. Acting on the advice of counsel, several passengers who were prepared to give evidence on the subject of the captain's health and the robbery of property, were not brought forward, the feeling of the Court evidently being that the second officer was mainly blamable for the wreck of the vessel, whilst it could not deal with the question of *looting*, save as a matter of discipline."

Where now are the ALLENS and the KEMPS of the Anglo-Indian press? Where the writers who insisted on the native superiority of the White sailor over the black lascar?

SIR MEREDYTH PLOWDEN has sentenced HUGH JARDINE, charged under Secs. 307 and 337 I. P. C., with attempt to murder his wife, SUSAN JANE JARDINE, and with causing hurt, and with acting rashly and negligently whereby life was endangered,—to 79 days' rigorous imprisonment for the one offence and four years' labor for the other. The facts appear to be that "on the 19th May last, the accused, who was living with his father-in-law, the assistant station-master of Delhi, had some words with his wife in her father's house, and that he seized hold of her and drew a pistol from his pocket. Mrs. JARDINE broke away, and ran from the house on to the platform just as the 8 o'clock down train was standing there. The accused followed and, while running after his wife on the platform, fired three shots at her. Mrs. JARDINE reached the station-master's room, where her father was, and as the accused came in close pursuit, the father saw accused with a pistol presented at his wife. Mr. COX struck accused's hand up, closed with him and disarmed him." The accused pleaded provocation and said that he fired the shots only to frighten. "It had been expected that some other disclosures would have been made in this case regarding certain charges of infidelity made by accused against his wife but as the counsel for the prosecution did not touch upon this side of the case, the Court was unable to allow the accused to go into the matter."

This is *zeolm* indeed! This is giving the prisoner the benefit of suppression! This is tenderness to be sure—with a vengeance!

But was the Judge right? Was the accused not competent to produce evidence to establish provocation?

THE Jogis have scored a triumphant victory in the Police Court :—

"DEFAMATION.

(Before the Hon'ble Syud Amcer Hossein.)

The case in which four Native gentlemen, named respectively, Madhub Chunder Nauth, Chunder Kumar Nauth, Nepal Chunder Nauth, and Uday Chunder Nauth, charged Babu Nundo Lal Roy, Editor and Publisher of the *Yogir Pota* (a pamphlet), with defamation, was called on for hearing yesterday (6th), when Babu Kanye Lal Mukerji appeared for the prosecution, and Babu Gopal Lal Seal for the defence. The names of the other defendants are Kally Prosunno Roy (the Printer) and Srinath Laha, the proprietor of the Printing Press, known as 'Surjodoya,' where the said pamphlet was printed. Babu Gopal Lal Seal said that no translation of the pamphlet in question had yet been tendered. Babu Kanye Lal Mukerji said that the same was in course of preparation. He would take this opportunity of mentioning that the Editor and Author of the said pamphlet, Babu Nundo Lal

Roy, having tendered the following apology, the charge against him was withdrawn. The apology ran as follows :—Written by me, Nundo Lal Roy, Brahman by caste, and clerk by profession, inhabitant of Tora Atapore, at present residing at Taltolla, within the Town of Calcutta—I have composed and published a small pamphlet, named *Jogi's Poita*, in Panchali, and published it in Surjodoya Press by Sri Nath Laha. In it, by way of example, I have made use of abusive and indecent language towards the Jogi caste; in consequence of which you have instituted a case against me, under Section 500 of the I. P. Code in the Calcutta Police Court before the Hon'ble Syud Ameer Hossein, according to the instruction of the President and members of the Calcutta Jogi Improvement Association in Bengal with a view to remove the stain from the Jogi caste. The case was fixed for hearing on the 5th August 1887. I was completely ignorant of the purity of your character and conduct; of your right to study the *Sham Veda*, and to perform the rites mentioned therein; hence I published a pamphlet called *Jogir Poita* which is full of invectives, had the same printed by Kally Prosunno Roy in Surjodoya Press in Burtollah, Sri Nath Laha being the Proprietor of the Press. Now I have been fully informed of your pure origin, right to the Veda, and to perform the rites mentioned in the Sham Veda, from *Agum Books &c.*, and have witnessed the examples in the character in your men. I am very sorry for my fault and repent of it, and I heartily beg to be pardoned by all the *Yogis* in Bengal. I hereby promise that in future I will never write such a bad book; should I write, then I will be punished according to law. From this time, I will try my best to publish to the community about your high caste, and your right to the *Shastres*. The Court thereafter said that it would adjourn the case for a week by which time it was to be hoped that the translations would be ready, and that since the principal had apologized, the others would see their way towards an amicable settlement of the case."

Talk of eating humble pie? Here is gourmandising and revelling in that edible. This ROY feasts on humble pie with the gusto with which the late KESHUB CHUNDER SEN exhausted the land of Ravana of all its—*Belatee Koomra*—and the exquisite delight with which, morning and evening, he fell on its curries of brinjals and bananas. Mr. R. MITTER, lord of the manor, might enquire of his agent at Tora Atapore what sort of a diner-out of a Brahman is this tenant of his, turned author of the Calcutta Grub Street. This literary clerk—not in holy orders, we presume—not only admits and retracts his libel, but also gives a sort of slavery bond. He not only withdraws his imputation but adds a panegyric on his accusers and their class. He carries his *amende honorable* to humillating lengths. The pressure of this prosecution has had a wonderful effect in opening his eyes. A more sublime spectacle of penitence was never presented. He will henceforth devote himself to the championship of the men whom he had maligned.

This business is so much of a good thing that it almost looks like a "sell." The good Jogis should make themselves sure of the meaning of the literary and theological references in the document which they have extracted.

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HERE is a Coroner's Inquest. The case is of an ordinary kind in Legal Medicine. The interest of it lies in the Jury's suggestion for better Hospital management :—

"At the Coroner's Court last week, there was an inquest held touching the death of one Doya Bewah, who had died at the Campbell Hospital from blood-poisoning. It appears that the deceased had been *enciente*, and had attempted to bring about abortion. A woman of the name of Prosunno, it was alleged, had made an attempt to bring it about in a most unskilful and unprofessional manner and that it proving a failure, the deceased herself tried the same process, but her attempt too was attended with serious injuries to her person. She then went into the College Hospital, and complained of pains all over her body, but concealed from the medical officer, who admitted her, what her complaint really was, or of her being *enciente*. As there were no beds available at the time, she was sent on to the Campbell Hospital, where she explained her case, and was treated accordingly, but too late to be effectual to her, for she not long after her admission succumbed to her illness. The enquiry resulted in the following finding by the Coroner's Jury :—'We are of opinion that the deceased Doya Bewah died from the effects of blood poisoning, brought on by criminal abortion and that under such circumstances, the woman Prosunno is punishable under Section 314 of the Indian Penal Code. Furthermore, we consider that a thorough examination of the deceased was not made by the House Surgeon at the Medical College Hospital, and that it is evident from the statement of the Assistant Surgeon of the Campbell Hospital, that the deceased was in such a condition, that her removal from one Hospital to another, most probably accelerated her death; and we desire, therefore, that this should be brought to the notice of Government. A warrant, we understand, has since been issued for the arrest of the woman Prosunno, who has absconded.'"

We hope the Principal of the College will be called on for a full report of how they order these serious matters in their snug corner, where the public light does not usually penetrate. It is only when doctors happen to disagree desperately, as Dr. PAYNE and poor Dr. WOODFORD did, that we have an opportunity of knowing what precious souls they are.

THERE are signs of discord in the erewhile happy family of the Great Bureaucracy. Mr. EDGAR GALBRAITH, C. S., has demanded of the *Pioneer* an unreserved apology for its very libellous statements as he calls them, about his conduct as honorary secretary of the Mussoorie Band Committee. The great organ of the Service not only declines to do anything of the kind, but our contemporary severely chastises both Messrs. GALBRAITH and MACPIERSON (the latter the Superintendent of the Doon). It charges them with rushing through the committee an offensive resolution regarding the officers of the 2nd Goorkhas, who had refused to lend their band for the occasion. May we hope that the promised good from disagreement will be realised in this instance?

## Editorial Notes.

THE Exodus Question has apparently been postponed to the Greek Kalends. Lord CROSS is in no hurry to take it up. It is wired from London that the Secretary of State has intimated that the final orders on the exodus question will be delayed until all reports bearing upon the Local Governments and their annual transfer of head-quarters to the hills are before him and have been considered. Wise Lord CROSS. Let sleeping dogs lie—"for good," if possible.

OUR old women may as well be ready for a fit. There is a genuine and avowed Russian in our midst. He professes to be a mere newspaper correspondent, but that is all nonsense, we know. He has doubtless higher game in view. His movements are being recorded with the zeal due to eminent foreigners. Here is the last bulletin :—

"M. Nicholas Notovitch, the special correspondent of the *Novaya Vremya*, makes only ten days' stay at Simla. He then visits important towns in Upper India, going afterwards to Calcutta, Madras and Bombay, and returning at the end of three months to Russia *via* Persia."

The situation is one for anxiety. The Deputy Commissioner of Calcutta ought to be telegraphed to see that no communication take place between NICHOLAS and any classical Baboos. Here is an opportunity for Master BARNARD.

THE Russian papers lately gave out rather exultingly that the Boundary Commission settlement has conceded to Russia 1,500 versts, equal to about 1,000 miles, of territory and only a trifle of 20 versts to Afghanistan. The telegram announcing this result was met by the usual outburst of dissatisfaction. And no doubt, on the face of it, it seems a poor ending of a great expedition and a protracted negotiation. Of course, the truth easily escaped fiery journalists and irresponsible politicians that the representatives of England presumably tried their best to obtain the best terms for their country and their ally the Ameer. At the worst, we must make a virtue of necessity. Perhaps, it is not so *very* bad, after all. It is now semi-officially explained from Simla that the area conceded to Russia on the Khusk river is not *very* different in extent from the area in dispute at Khaja Saleh, and, moreover, it is a desert, for the most part, while the 12 or 13 miles obtained by the Ameer is valuable fertile land, cultivated and inhabited. It is plain of course that, step by step, Russian diplomacy, by its skill and doggedness "drags, at each remove, a lengthening chain"—of survey and measurement. But that is, as it were a hereditary disadvantage with our good rulers. In the olden times, English envoys were regarded on the Continent with something of the amused interest with which the ATALIK GHAZI's ambassador or the agents of the struggling Panthays were viewed in India. But they could scarcely be formidable. This continued down to the present century and was exemplified in the great Congress of Vienna—an event of which we have the fullest authentic particulars. Lord CASTLEREACH was not quite the intellectual enunch that BYRON characterised him, but shared the defective education of the British and Irish landed, and governing class of his day, his manners were not up to mark, they had not that repose which marks the caste of Vere de Vere, he could not divest himself of his insular self-consciousness. At Vienna, he was overpowered by his position as the equal of great princes and famous ministers. The cordial condescensions of the assembled notables gave the finishing stroke and utterly prostrated him. Throughout the conference he was as dough in the hands of the highly polished and astute wights he had to deal with. We fear the same relation between British and Continental diplomats continues to this day. To our mind, England never succeeds in diplomacy, unless at the point of the bayonet, as after the Crimean War—when it is no matter of pure diplomacy at all.



CROMWELL'S agents were never in danger of being abashed into silence for fear of exposing their French.

GENERAL GHANSUDDIN, in command of three battalions of the Ameer's troops at Herat, had, by the Generalissimo GHOLAM HAIDER, for a long time been suspected to be in treasonable correspondence with SIKANDAR KHAN, on the frontier at Panjdeh. He was warned, but, instead of taking the hint in good part, he preferred to protest his innocence, and, to give point to his asseveration of injured innocence, he offered to be blown from a gun if a single scrap of his writing could be produced against him. The Commander-in-Chief was bound to consider this a challenge, and so he quietly pursued his enquiry, and having at last obtained several letters, sent General GHANSUDDIN under arrest to Cabool. There he was confronted with the evidence of his own hand. Thus convicted, he has been put to death. MIR AHMED KHAN, of Logar, a relation of General GHANSUDDIN, was also arrested as one implicated.

A SIKH ran amok in Kushalgar in Kohat. He used to take *jhulka* flesh which the neighbouring Mahomedans did not relish, and they marked their disapprobation by mixing tobacco with the Sikh's drinking water. He complained to the Magistrate who fined them each Rs. 2. The Mahomedans took this to heart and, after Court, they belaboured the Sikh severely. He in his turn took the law into his own hands, and at night killed two of them with a sword and then attempted to destroy others. He is in custody. His brave people ought to disown him for his sneaking behaviour. Executing one's own vengeance is barbarous and should be discouraged as anarchic, but it may, under certain circumstances, be respected, if not approved. But this Sikh took a mean revenge.

A JUST Judge has been promoted to the bench of the Madras High Court, in the person of Mr. HENRY JOHN STOKES of the Civil Service, late Judge of Coimbatore. As Collector he did not shine at Madura, it is said, but here we must beg leave to interpose an exception in respect of the judicial side of the Collectorate, in favour of the author of the useful and excellent notes on the Madras Rent Act (No. VII., M.C., of 1865.) The complaint is that Mr. STOKES was not popular. He was all the better for it, we opine. It is not your popular man that usually does well, that is, gives conscientious true work. What though Mr. STOKES did not lay himself out for "the madding crowd's ignoble" applause—what though he was not constantly closetted with district notables or the aspiring spirits who manufacture "public opinion"—he was for the very reason unhampered by "connections." Without partialities and prejudices, he was free to hold the balance between diverse interests and different classes and contending parties. He brought to the public service a sober independent mind and accurate knowledge and a disposition to do justice. This has been apparent whenever he has held a purely judicial office. He made his reputation in Tanjore during his brief judgeship, which he thoroughly maintained and even raised as Chief Magistrate of the Coimbatore District. In that office his firmness and impartiality were put to the severest trial, and he passed triumphantly through it. Neither the *esprit de corps* of the Indian Civil Service, nor the frown of Sir M. GRANT DUFF'S Government had any effect on this admirable public servant. It was mainly to his acumen and determination to do the right, that we owe the exposure of the Salem conspiracy. Such a judge is a rare possession in India, and Madras should be grateful to the present Administration for having strengthened the highest Court by calling Mr. STOKES to its bench. The STOKES are a rather remarkable race, with a special aptitude for the liberal professions.

WITH the extension of railway and steam communication to all parts of the country and the consequent multiplication of a low class agency, European and native, there are grounds for apprehending the increase of new and very offensive forms of crime. It is bad enough for male Indians to be insulted and worse for poor women to be huddled by force into compartments without sufficient room in them. But what shall we say of railway officers or menials taking indecent liberties with unprotected travellers of the gentler sex? Above all, what shall be said of railway myrmidons escaping out of the dark precincts of their fiery furnace and creeping alongside a train in motion and stealing into the sanctum of ladies and obtruding their begrimed,

sooty and stinking carcasses on the fair inmates, and even going to the length of attempting the extreme violence on them? Yet such cases have not been unknown.

About a month ago, two Parsee ladies filed an affidavit at Surat against a European station master who had made an attempt to outrage their modesty. It is said that the man has since been dismissed. But is that the end of it?

Another case, more serious perhaps, comes from Rajputana:—

"Miss Williams, a daughter of the jailor at Jeypore, aged 12 years, was travelling in a second class of the Rajputana line on her way home, from Bandikin when, at the 5th station, Zur, she rushed out of the carriage, calling out 'guard, guard.' The guard on inquiring learnt a European had entered her compartment, while the train was in motion, and attempted to take liberties with her and that when the train was nearing the station, he quitted the carriage on the off side. On this the guard brought before her the only two European travellers by that train, but she did not recognise the culprit in either of them. She then described her persecutor, and this led the guard to suspect the engine-driver; and when the train reached Jeypore every precaution was taken by the guard and every one was shown to Miss Williams. She did not recognise the culprit until at last the engine-driver was shown to her. She at once said that he was the man who had come into her compartment. The driver had, however, taken the precaution to change his clothes and tried to blacken his face with coals; but without avail."

Luckily, "without avail;" by the merest chance, we may say. The engine-driver was not produced till effort was exhausted to force this poor girl to make a fool of herself and ruin a luckless innocent. It is all very well to say that every precaution was taken by the guard. But on the face of the narrative several questions arise. How is it that the engine-driver was shown last, even after his person had been described. The guard, if he had attended to his duties, ought in all probability to have fixed his suspicions in the right quarter without any such description. At any rate, the engine-driver could scarcely have changed his clothes so soon after the arrival of the train without some connivance. We think poor Miss WILLIAMS was very ill used by being put to recognise her assailant, whom she had never before seen, in his changed dress. The Political Agent, Jeypore, inquires into the case.

To pour oil upon troubled waters has long been among the "properties" of Poesy—in verse or prose. But it is scarcely a hundred years since the idea was introduced into the domain of science. The credit of that introduction is given to BENJAMIN FRANKLIN. It is said that the great American was struck by observing on board the subduing effect on a high sea of the greasy refuse water drained from the vessel's cook-room. If so, with his usual practical turn he pursued the matter to the bottom. In that case, however, his inquiry has left no influence on the world at large. Pouring oil upon troubled waters still passed for one of the amiable notions of the poets—a mere trick of literature. From time to time, the question of the truth of the idea was started in literary journals like *Notes and Queries*, and passages were cited from records more or less ancient in proof of the effects of the oleaginous treatment of an angry sea. In time the matter passed from the hands of literary men and book-worms to those of men of science and experiment. There is now scarcely any room for doubt. In America, the relation of oil to waves has attained the consistency of a departmental belief in the state. A Lieutenant of the Navy has presented a memoir on the subject. The writer has evidently made a long enquiry, for he descends to particulars. According to him,

"Oil should be used in boarding wrecks, the boarding vessel running under the lee of the wreck and then discharging the oil. Its use, he contends, might save much damage to boats and ships in heavy weather. Two quarts of oil shed per hour are sufficient for this purpose if wisely used. Oil is most serviceable in deep water; but even in surf or on a bar it may be useful."

Assuming their correctness, these are valuable suggestions. At a time when our people are perishing by hundreds before their door as it were in the Bay by the loss of ships, they are particularly welcome. The attention of the British Government, which is more interested than any other Power in the safety of shipping, will, no doubt, be drawn to the new prospect opened out by American science and perseverance. The British Government, though sure, is a trifle slow. Unfortunately, the Indian Government has scarcely left any marine department, or else the subject would be one for its inquiry. Might not our Government do something independently, while inviting the attention of the ministry to the old poetical recipe for appeasing the sea now in all seriousness adopted by the 'cute Yankees?

THE *People's Friend's* Calcutta correspondent is a believer in—TARINI CHURN NEOGI. We are told—

"Our astrologer, Baboo Tarini Churn Neogi, predicted that a calamity will befall a great family in the capital of the Empire. This prophecy has just been verified. The Raj family of Sopha bazar in Calcutta has sustained a severe calamity by the death of about forty members of it who were passengers in Steamer *Sir John Lawrence* which was lost in the Bay of Bengal on the 25th May last in a cyclone."

Then comes the inevitable conclusion—

"It seems after all that there is something in the Hindoo science of Astrology which is so much depreciated by the educated Indians."

Why should it "seem," and be "after all?" One might ask, "after" what "all?" No, no, Baboo! Nothing like firm faith, unhesitating unquestioning. Faith can remove mountains,—what are any accumulations of facts and reasoning, before such a motive force? For fertility Saint NEOGI probably beats any other hero in the line. Here is another of his predictions—

"The native astrologer in Calcutta whom I have already mentioned has predicted that Baboo Nilambar Mukherjee, the late Prime Minister to the Maharajah of Cashmere, will be again reappointed in his post. The prophecy is very bold indeed and it remains to be seen whether it actually comes to pass. Already a brother of Baboo Nilambar has been appointed Chief Justice of the Chief Court at Cashmere, and this appointment may be taken as the prelude to the reinstatement of that of Baboo Nilambar in his former office."

There is no boldness, because no risk, in the last prediction, any more than in the preceding one—which is of the commonest type indulged in by the vulgarest mountebanks, and clearly derogatory to NEOGI's pretensions. If the remark about Baboo NILAMBAR is to be held a title to the prophetic office, we claim the Correspondent's homage. We have been telling every body from the first that Baboo NILAMBAR will go back to Cashmere. If God spares his life, he is bound to be recalled to honor and office.

THE Calcutta Corporation has decided upon a debenture loan of Rs. 15,54,5000, to be repaid after 30 years at 5 per cent. interest. The greater part of it, Rs. 12,90,000 is meant for the extension water works. The balance is to be applied in repayment of the 6 per cent. loan falling due on the 1st September next, and for drainage works and bustee improvement.

It is satisfaction to find that, on the recommendation of the Vice-Chairman (Babu GOPAL LAL MITTER), the Town Council proposed, and the Commissioners have sanctioned, a compassionate personal allowance of Rs. 15 a month to ASHUTOSH CHATTERJEE, the poorly paid Debenture clerk, who lost his parents and altogether a dozen of kith and kin in the *Sir John Lawrence*. The Corporation has shown that it has heart to feel.

THE Resolution of the Town Council that Mr. O. C. DUTT, the Collector, was a contractor and not a servant to the Corporation, has been modified by the Commissioners in meeting. They hold—by way of clearing the way for the future—that the official in question is a servant of the Municipality to the extent defined in his contract. Mr. DUTT was entitled to consideration. He is a man of ability and untiring energy, and has done good service in his office. He would have done still better by confining himself to it. But he has a passion for work, and the municipal staff is not strong enough to be able to dispense with his ready and efficient help. Hence, he is ubiquitous in the Corporation. Without responsibility, he is the true guiding genius in many departments, sowing the seeds of demoralisation in his path in the very effort to set matters right. The truth is, that with all his intelligence, education and activity, notwithstanding his exceptional municipal experience, he has not yet developed the higher qualities of command. His restlessness is apt to be a disturbing element, specially in an Oriental country. He has not yet acquired the faculty of knowing where to stop. If he has unearthed abuses and spotted delinquents, he is understood to have driven good men and true from the corporation, to the injury of efficiency. With a consciousness of human weakness, he might be more tolerant and practical. In fine, all he wants to fit him for rule is to cultivate a little patience and repose of soul.

THE *Tirhoot Courier* gives notice of changing its date from Tuesday to Wednesday. We hope with this change there will be an improvement in the get-up. The *Courier* started well, even brilliantly, with a lively and admirable introductory address. It is still in good hands, though of late there are signs of weariness, if not of inferior interference. But all its culture and thought have failed of adequate effect

from the mechanical department not well seconding the literary staff. Add to this, the paper of late comes in such a crumpled condition that it is difficult to read, and impossible to enjoy it. Considering that the type is new and the paper tolerable, this ought not to be so. Our meaning may be illustrated by the leading paragraph in the *Courier* last to hand, which we reproduce *verbatim et literatim*, points and all, with all its imperfections on its head, to wit—

"We found a curious note in Schmyler's Turkistan the other day as to the origin of the word 'horde' which may be of interest to our readers. 'The word Horde, Russian Orda, comes from the Turkis Urdu, a camp, seen now in Urdu, citadel, which is the accepted term in Tashkent, Khokand and the neighbouring places. Orda is now commonly used by the Russian soldiers and Cossacks in a very amusing manner as contemptuous term for an Asiatic. Our readers will know that a particular form of Hindustani is called Urdu, in-as-much as it was the camp language of the Moghal Emperors. The connection, from the note above quoted, perfectly evident between it and horde, most probably never entered into any one of their minds. It certainly never did into ours."

"Cossacks" is, of course, Cossacks, and "Schmyler" is the American traveller SCHUYLER. There are several other misprints, one only of which we will notice. The quotation begins, faintly to be sure, with an inverted comma, but it disappears without notice like the sacred Saraswati in the sand—leaving no visible sign of an ending. The intelligent reader is not deceived; but he frets under the treatment, notwithstanding. And what is the good of learning or wit or philosophy if it is not properly presented? Had this paragraph or even this number been an exception, we would not have cared to notice the point. But the fact is, that we have wished to enjoy the *Courier* and have not been allowed. And here we may as well add the general remark that it is bad form to employ single inverted commas as quotation marks. Although there is high authority for the practice, it ought to be confined to books. It may be allowed in carefully got up books, but it should be strictly eschewed in the hasty printing of journalism. The practice of the great newspapers in England and in India of prefixing double inverted commas to every line of quoted matter inserted in the body of the article and of even type with it, seems archaic at this day, and perhaps pedantic, but it is preferable to the other extreme, in which a single slip of the pen or a single type dropped by accident inevitably leads to confusion. There are papers for which the orthodox rule of marking every line of each quotation might be inconvenient. There are writers who are supposed to be partial to the single inverted comma from the advantage it offers of imposing on the imagination of readers and passing quoted matter for original. But the *Courier* is far too able a journal to stand in need of such tricks. The most approved plan of the day, usually followed in the *Statesman*, is to print quotations in a different type, or at least to isolate them from the original writing, into distinct paragraphs by themselves. In that case it is not indispensably necessary to mark them in the usual way. You may dispense with your inverted commas. In our paper these are as often exhibited as not. They are best reserved for quotations within quotations.

After so much ado about a point of punctuation and printing, we have not the heart to conclude without another word. It might look like trifling—may, a shinking of the higher responsibilities of public writing—to pass over the subject-matter of our contemporary's note. We must therefore beg to be excused from being in the category of those of *Courier's* readers to whom the correction mentioned never occurred. It is farthest from our mind to take any mean advantage of the writer. We admire his condour. It is easy to be wise after the event, and he has disdained to be so wise. The fact of the matter is that SCHUYLER has made no discovery. As early as RICHARDSON, whose great philological labours were originally contributed to the *Encyclopaedia Metropolitana*, projected by COLERIDGE and carried out by SMEDLEY, the Turki derivation, through Russian, of the word has been known. RICHARDSON'S authorities, old PURCHAS and others, anticipated the researches of the American traveller.

It is always dark under the lamp. In the neighbourhood of the enlightenment of metropolitan Indore, the darkness of Mhow has hitherto maintained itself—with respect to Zoroastrianism at least. There are Guebres and Guebres. So there are Parsees at Indore and Parsees at Mhow, and the two sets have not always been in mutual harmony in the practice of their common creed. The Indoree Parsees are the Progressive camp and the Mhowa Parsees are Conservatives. The difference came out in connection with a recent melancholy occurrence. And we are glad to find that the prudence of the good people of Mhow finally made it the occasion for a rap-

*prochement* between the two sections of the same community.

The disposal of their dead has always been to the Parsees in the Holkar territory a subject of concern and a difficulty. They are few in numbers and for the most part picked men, too well occupied to have leisure or even inclination to carry their dead on their own shoulders to the distant Towers of Silence. And yet it would not do for them, any more than for Hindus, to employ porters, if porters were to be found without religious objections to touch the dead of another creed. The problem had, however, been satisfactorily solved at Indore, many years ago, by the ingenuity of a Parsee, by the construction of a special carriage for the purpose, and the enlightenment of the Parsees of that city in readily making use of it. But the Parsees of Mhow stood upon their orthodoxy and would not adopt such a new fangled mode of dealing with their deceased relatives. So they continued their old practice, looking down on their fellow-Zoroastrians of the neighbouring capital as men who, under the influence of the prevailing love of convenience and luxury, had fallen off from the purity of their pristine manners, if not from their faith. Lately, their conservatism was put to a most severe test. On the 29th ultimo, an old lady of their small community died. The body had to be taken to the final resting place to afford the usual feast to the thousands of God's creatures who are not particular in their choice of animal diet. But the banqueting hall—the Towers of Silence—was six miles off, and the greater part of the way was no way at all. There was a road for two miles at most. The season too was against the living and the dead. The lady having tarried so long on earth might, if she cared to have her remains carried to the Tower on the shoulders of her co-religionists, have waited a few months more. There has been a good deal of rain for Central India during the whole week of her death, spoiling such roads and ways as exist. It was found impracticable to get together the necessary number to convey the body. Under the circumstance, the convenience of their Indore brethren repeatedly came to mind. It was remembered too that one of them, the ingenious ADARJI DADABHOY, has by some years anticipated a possible inclination to light among them in the future. An undertaker's van for the Parsee dead might still be discovered lying idle in some back out-office in his premises, and if no distinctively Zoroastrian draught cattle could be had, no horses could be objected to as persons of a different creed. There were the old scruples, nevertheless, and much time was doubtless lost in discussing them, but as with the advancing hours and the hastening decomposition under the heat of the Central Indian July, there was no corresponding abatement, or prospect of abatement, of the difficulty of finding proper men for the carrying service, the good people of Mhow more and more discovered the practical side of their Parsee mind. Orthodoxy showed clear signs of waning. Stiff old Zoroastrianism inclined to reasonable terms. Finally, Conservatism surrendered at discretion. Reform was installed in triumph in the citadel of Mhow.

The old lady's remains were conveyed to the Tower of Silence in Mr. ADARJI DADABHOY'S trap, not without difficulty, without, we are sure, considering the state of the communications.

When will the Hindus take a leaf out of these practical Parsees?

## REIS & RAYYET.

### ROWDYISM IN OFFICE.

WHAT is become of our civil protectors? They are not only forgetting their old good manners but even developing a vulgar rowdyism. Here are some of the most recent instances. The Western papers report how a European official punched the head of a poor native apprentice in his office, and has had to make up by tendering an apology when the aggrieved applied to the magistracy for a summons.

A more discreditable act was that of Second Assistant Collector LENKAS of Kanara in going to the office of the Deputy Collector and assaulting, without provocation or notice, an old native gentleman sitting there pouring over some papers transacting business. Poor MADHAVA SHET was a respectable and wealthy banker from Bombay, but neither his wealth nor his respectability could save him from ill usage from my

Lord the Second Assistant Bahadoor to the Collector of Kanara. The old man, who had not at first noticed the arrival of the great man, rocked out of his seat and knocked out of his reverie, stands up to gaze at the Presence, but before he had time to take in his physiognomy, my Lord had left, soon however to reappear with Mr. INGLE, the Deputy Collector. This official now asked the SHETJEE if he looked defiantly at my Lord LENKAS Bahadoor. SHET answering in the negative, His Highness Bearood Dowlah Wolf-Jung Bahadoor was irritated beyond measure, and came down upon the poor old man with a succession of kicks and blows which continued till the fury of enemy was spent in the operation. The venerable banker suffered without, because incapable of, resistance, but not uncomplainingly, as the event proved. He complained to the proper quarter, and a British magistrate thought the justice of the case would be satisfied by a small fine. The White Dowlah was fined that amount.

There is something so contemptible in this exasperation of wounded sensibility of Master Spooney of the Civil Service who causelessly conceives His Troubled Highness slighted, and something so revolting in a responsible officer of Government using his limbs with all the skill and agility of a prize-fighter on the bare chance or possibility of his victim having given him witting offence. There is something so mean and dastardly in the mature Briton pounding a poor native gentleman, old enough to be his father, and kicking and cuffing away at him. There was not the least stimulus of resistance, to pursue the course of violence. Or, was the absence of any show of returning the compliment itself the provocative to courage? Oh, fie!

A scarcely less serious instance is reported from a frontier district. The local Sylhet paper seems engaged in recording the doings of the Judge. It reports that lately this light of the bench whipped a man whose only fault was the coming across his path.

There may possibly be some exaggeration in the matter. The whipping may turn out to be a caning. The victim may be a fool, or an unkempt bumpkin lost in wondering admiration of the British face divine who was easily supposed to be impertinent. But the personal chastisement—personal on both sides—is, we take it, no fiction of the Oriental imagination. Nor does the station of Sylhet abound in *Saheblogues*, so that some Nobody Smith or Brown X could have been mistaken for the Saheb Judge Bahadoor. What, then, are we to say of such an incident? Here is the highest representative of British majesty and civilization on the frontier exhibiting himself, without the temper that might be expected of a well-behaved schoolboy! The greatest British official in that part of the country descending to a street brawl, or at least not ashamed to strike a poor unarmed Indian! The chief judicial authority shows his respect for the law by executing his vengeance with his own hands! Such is the partiality for one's own class or nation that we are not sure of convincing our European readers of the enormity of such conduct. But suppose the worm had turned round upon its treader? What, if the poor Indian had surprised His Honor with his pluck and returned the debt with or without interest? We are far too respectable to have hailed such a *finale* of the encounter. But times are altered, and the gentleman incurred a grave risk by his foolhardiness. One return blow would have not only humbled him in the dust but dissolved the charm of two centuries.

We would not have noticed these cases, if they were not getting far too common. We would certainly have been slow to believe such a story respecting a gentleman of position, had we not known other gentlemen, equally respectable, commit themselves in the same way. We cannot soon forget how a grave and learned gentleman, occupying a high position in the Education department, ran through the street in pursuit of a poor Bengali Baboo and battered him in the Court-House. The other day a judicial officer in a Political Agency misconducted himself in a still more outrageous manner in open court while in the execution of his judicial office. Surely, it is time enough for a reform. The country needs protection from its protectors.

#### A GLIMPSE OF EUROPEAN CIVILIZATION.

WANTED—A REMEDY FOR *Ennui*.

HERE is a curious glimpse into life in the West and the ways of civilization :—

"The latest craze among the ladies is a 'hair album'—gentlemen's hair. Young men are besought for a lock of hair, and the request is such a flattering one that they are only too happy to comply when the right damsels apply. The contribution is tied with a blue ribbon and goes into the 'hair album' along with the hair of a crowd of other fellows. Over it will be written the name, age, colour of eyes, date of receiving the memento, and general remarks as to personal appearance, &c., which may or may not be complimentary, as the album is never to be seen by any other than feminine eyes. The young ladies are as proud of their trophies as an Indian warrior is of the scalps he takes."

What! is the rape of the lock reversed as to sex of the wearer? And now that our girls are going in for high education, must we prepare ourselves for a time when the dear creatures will, armed with scissors and paste and ribbons, hunt young men and old, known and unknown, and notoriety of all descriptions, from fattest Mayors to famous "mashers," through all the gamut of interesting humanity marked by Heavenborn generals, successful ministers, extraordinary jackasses, eloquent preachers, silent sages, nastiest saints, naughtiest wits, hardest-lying travellers, incomprehensible philosophers, romantic charlatans, Russian spies, Turkish bashaws, and suspects in general, for the purpose of shearing them and lightening their hirsute burdens. Then blessed are they who have not yet sent their girls to schools! Truly indeed,

.....where ignorance is bliss,

'Tis folly to be wise.

What a situation is this of the Western fair as disclosed in the above extract! The sex which the late Mr. MILL was wont to represent as the subjected one, has been set free and has received the full light of education. All the same its lot is one of suffering. Freed from responsibilities as well as restraints, with knowledge but without a career,

too bright and good

For human nature's daily food,

these ladies are as miserable as might be expected or imagined. Puffed up with the first vanity of knowledge, they are eaten up with *ennui*. In the "dark age" they were wont to ask gentlemen for verses or sketches for their albums. As they became more educated themselves, they came to think it a confession of their inferiority to have their books filled with the effusions of their male acquaintance. So they now contented themselves with asking them for at most their respective signatures. In fact, they wanted to be more manly, that is, do as the men did, for they here followed a dissipation started by men. From literary composition to mere manuscript—from quest of tokens of the mind to quest of scrawl of the hand—was a great fall. Still the ridiculous was not reached. Some ingenious men have deduced gener-

alisations from the differences of handwriting so far as to raise a science or pseudo-science. Another downward leap was taken when, following some soft *dilettantis* of the other sex, the fair ones reduced numismatics—a branch of literature and history which has been vindicated by the classic pen of Addison, and to the cultivation whereof the French have assigned a national academy—to the absurdity of collecting postage stamps. There was, it seems, beneath the deep a lower deep, which has now been reached, in this unaccountable passion for the shavings of human beings of the masculine gender. Was ever craze like to this? The last feeble link with mind is now finally abandoned. The least rational apology is wanting in this fashionable game, or whatever it may be called.

The root of all this nonsense lies in the absence of healthy occupation for the ladies of the well-to-do classes. Society might thank its stars if the personage who is said to find work for idle hands, did not provide its fair members more questionable employment! The poor girls are almost prepared for anything so as to kill time, and if possible get some fun into the bargain. And we of the far East are teaching ourselves to be happy inasmuch as our brunettes assimilate themselves to the Western standard. Hence we are more than ever interested in the manners and destiny of the sex in the West. We hope Western society will soon devise some antidote to a growing evil. Is it not possible to find work for the ladies, profitable to themselves and to the world? We hope our people will ponder on the responsibility of encouraging the growing distaste to the prosaic domestic duties of the household—nursing and looking after children, cooking, &c. It is not for us to advise European society, of which indeed we know so little. But it seems to us that a movement for popularising cookery among the well-to-do may be attended with beneficial results. It should be headed by the highest ladies in the realm. Some of them might show an example of sacrifice by treating their friends to dishes prepared by themselves. Others might make a point of really superintending the kitchen of their house. Cookery is yet in its infancy in Europe—it is confessedly very plain in England! The art of eating is so useful that we forget that it is capable of being raised to a fine art. Some of the gifted French alone have had glimpses of the truth. But it is a pity that a true gourmand like SAVARIN, who, though a lawyer and member of Parliament, wrote on gastronomy, had had imperfect knowledge of the existing state of cookery. The perfection which it has reached in many departments was unknown to him. He ought to have come to India, instead of crossing over to America.

The above has been many weeks in type. Since writing it we have come across the following paragraph going the round of the Press :—

"A Perfect Wife for £25." Such is the heading of an advertisement which is being circulated in England. It is issued by a lady, who is going to start a school for wives. In these days of garish accomplishments 'the practical side of women's nature' is neglected. In the new academy it will be developed. 'Girls who go there will be instructed in housewifery duties.' The classes will consist of cookery, dress-making, physiology, book-keeping, elocution, and debating."

It is a great pleasure to see ourselves thus anticipated.

#### THE MAHRATTA ENQUIRY.

THERE have been two Marine Courts this week to enquire into the loss of the *Sir John Lawrence* and the wreck of the *Mahratta*. The new or the second Court was composed of Mr. E. V. WESTMACOTT, Magistrate of Howrah, as President, and Mr. J. WARD, Master of the *B. S. Pegasus*, as member. Mr. GORDON LEITH, Assistant Secretary

Government of Bengal, Legislative Department, conducted the enquiry on behalf of Government, and Mr. GARTH, instructed by Messrs. BARROW and ORR, represented the managing Agents, Messrs. MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co. This second enquiry has been as rapid as the sinking of the vessel. The Court sat only two days, Tuesday and Thursday, notwithstanding that Thursday was a holiday. The witnesses examined were the Master (John Anderson), the pilot (John Carter Allen), the chief officer (Herbert Samuel Brown) and the second officer (Arthur Morton) of the *Mahratta*, the mate pilot (Malcolm H. Beatty) of the *Euphrates*, the master (Roxburgh Spens) of the *Tyrone*, the two vessels that came to the aid of the *Mahratta*, two senior master pilots (Francis Dillon Bellew and John Douglas Bennett). None else were called, not a single saved passenger. The President was, however, satisfied, before consulting his colleague for the finding and the report to Government, that "both the pilot and the captain appear to have behaved in every way that they should after the accident. There is no blame to them whatever of their conduct in saving the passengers." The President on behalf of the Court also complimented Mr. MORTON for his "behaviour in a very courageous and seamanlike manner, especially in going into the water with the chief officer, to fetch a country boat. I am glad to hear the testimony of both the pilot and captain of your brave behaviour on board."

The pilot was in charge of the vessel when she struck, and this is his evidence:—

"I am a licensed steam tug pilot. I was born at Liverpool, and am 54 years of age. I first held a license as Pilot on the Hughli in 1870. I have commanded about 14 different vessels, steam tugs and others, in the Chandbally trade, of which I was both master and pilot. I first took charge of the *Mahratta* on the 8th June last, and made five trips in her before the accident occurred. I was not in command of her. On the night of the 22nd I took over pilotage charge of her. We got under weigh at 5-30 A. M., and got to Diamond Harbour at 9 A. M. There was a conversation in which I said that I was going to take the Eastern Gut, as I had received no report of the state of the Western Gut for four days; and that the notice shown at Diamond Harbour was No. 2 track, 2 6; and No. 3 track 12 feet. It is not usual to give notice to Chandbally boats of the depth of water. I have made use of both channels; twice of the Eastern and three times of the Western, with the flood on all occasions except once. I saw the semaphore at Hughli Point which registered 11 feet. I came up the Waterloo buoy, passed it, came along, then hard aport. She then came abreast the Point, and an eddy formed on the starboard bow. When she got over that another eddy caught her and carried her on the sands. The tide carried her broadside on to the sands. She began to steady a little in No. 1 track after the first eddy caught her, when another eddy caught her. It is an awkward corner at all times. I preferred the eastern channel, because I had more water. There may have been some change in four days. Not having heard of the depth of water in the Western Gut for four days, made me take the eastern channel. It was possible the channel may have silted up in four days to the extent of five feet. I found the tide a great deal stronger than I expected; it was a six days' spring. I was ahead of the tide, and it came up afterwards, and made stronger. Nothing could have been done after she struck, as the whole thing was done so quickly. If I had known how strong the tide was I should have anchored in the bight, and waited for the turn of the tide. From the time the eddy caught her till the time she struck was about three or four minutes; and there was no time to let go the anchors. The first eddy took her and carried her across the track, and the second one carried her on to the sands. It did not strike me as a specially strong tide when it caught me up. I have come up the river on an average during the 17 years I have been in the service, about 40 or 50 times during the year. When there is water the western channel is easier. Before the accident I gave orders for the helm to be hard aport. After she struck I got hold of as many passengers as I could, and helped them up. I did not see the second engineer at all. It was an hour before a boat came. The passengers were picked up all along for about two miles. The first boat which picked up passengers from the wreck was the Hughli Point Serang's boat. The third engineer got washed away, and was picked up by the Serang's boat. I got away in the country boat after it landed other passengers. There were 53 passengers in this last trip. The Captain, officers, and crew all behaved well; and there was no misbehaviour on anybody's part. All that could be done was done. After consideration I think I was in the right in trying the eastern channel. The two crew who were injured died on shore, and were buried at a spot pointed out by the Point Serang."

There was no attempt to ascertain the number of passengers on board and how many were lost. The only evidence as to the number of passengers on board is the master's and it is—"There were 215 passengers to (from?) Chandbally; these numbers were from a return given me by the clerk."

#### DACCA.

The metropolis of Eastern Bengal is just passing through a crisis. The cause of local self-government has been imperilled by the rashness of a few shortsighted zealots and mischief-making partizans. Sir Rivers Thompson was very sanguine about the success of the

elective system in a centre of activity and enlightenment like Dacca, with an abundance of leisuired talent ready to be devoted to the common weal of its citizens. Little did he think then that his wellmeant but injudicious compliment to the intelligence and public spirit of this old city would not be appreciated by its inhabitants but, on the contrary, demoralise them into a captious spirit of fault-finding interference, which they mistake for an intelligent opposition to the abuse of power. The concession of local self-government was hailed as a millennium and many were the festivities with which the occasion was marked here in Dacca.

"It seemed a day (I speak of one from many singled out), one of those heavenly days which can not die." We then witnessed a demonstration unrivalled by any others before it in wild and uproarious enthusiasm. Stump orators on temporary platforms vied with each other in exercising their lungs and performed marvellous feats of memory. Resolutions of thanksgiving were carried amidst the general acclamation of the multitude, and sensation-mongers drew in fancy colors the bright future and rich prospect lying before the land of the *Boori Ganga*. In the midst of this universal rejoicing, one prophetic voice sounded a note of warning. "Let not posterity," he said, "look back with regret upon the withered branches of this gigantic tree (Local Self-Government)." "There came forth fingers of a man's hand and wrote over the candle stick upon the plaster of the King's palace 'Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin.'" People heeded not the remonstrance but flushed with victory they thought that the future would be an everlasting today.

In an evil moment, (under the malignant influence of Saturn, our forefathers would have said) the newly constituted guardians of our civic interests sought to replenish the municipal coffers by revising the rate of taxation. Here was an opportunity too precious to be lost and the enemies, open and disguised, of the principle involved in the scheme of local self-government, were determined to make the most of it. The passions of the mob were roused against the new regime, a formidable requisition signed by a numerous body of ratepayers was presented to the Magistrate of Dacca, imploring him to put a veto on the proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners. They did not stop here. There was some chance of the *argumentum baculinum* being resorted to. Poor Lord Mayor, Baboo Anand Chunder Roy, would have come in, so says Dame Rumour, for rough handling at the hands of some rowdy ruffians, if their plan to waylay him had not miscarried. This is the reward of presuming to look after everybody's interests save one's own! Except for the late Lieutenant-Governor's kind forbearance, we would have seen the last of our elected Commissioners. So far the Municipal Governors had acted in concert with each other, but the dignified spectacle of a camp divided against itself was bliss reserved for days yet to come. Well, for some reason or other, some say not quite creditable to the party now triumphant, his colleagues seem to have discovered that the Chairman was a round man in a square hole, and at a meeting of the town Corporation, the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman saw themselves outvoted on every resolution brought forward, not one Commissioner voting with them.

This was the signal for a rupture—a good deal of bad blood was subsequently stirred up and the scintillating fire was fanned into an open flame. The reassessment of taxes had already caused much heart-burning among the populace and this ill-feeling, which ranked in the hearts of those whom the shoe pinched, was fed and nursed, until it was strong enough to defy all barriers. Baboo Roy was left in the lurch, to bear the heat and burden of popular wrath, while his friends showed a clean pair of heels. A monster meeting, monster in more senses than one, was held at the premises of Syed Abdul Bari, at the instance of certain gentlemen of light and leading, who ought to have known better. The conduct of Chairman Roy and Vice-Chairman Nundy was denounced in no measured terms. In this motley crew, there were some whose presence was an anomaly not yet accounted for, but the rank and file presented the appearance of a rabble rout led astray by the malicious misrepresentations of a certain interested class. Those who got up this "packed" assembly, were determined to carry everything in their own way. All attempts at opposing the resolutions (which were foregone conclusions and any honest discussion was persistently stifled) were sternly put down by the President, and those who were suspected of being scouts from the enemy's camp had to retire amidst the groans and hisses of the unsavoury crowd, smelling of onion and garlic. The proceedings throughout were of an extremely informal and unconstitutional character.

I understand that Baboo Anand Chundra Roy will make a final appeal to the reason and good sense of the *elite*, in a pamphlet explaining his conduct. What the result may be, I do not care to speculate, but I can not refrain from expressing my belief that the public vote of censure against its elected and hitherto most trusted representatives, has been inopportune and ill advised in the highest degree. There is no justification whatever for taking such an extreme step, which may furnish the Government with a pretext to withdraw the boon of local self-government altogether.

In that case how we shall honor the prophet, so long neglected, who sounded the first note of alarm.

OBITER DICTA.



## Official Papers.

(Telegram.)

From Nawab Abdool Lutef Bahadur, C.I.E.,

To the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India.

The Mahomedan community of Calcutta beg most respectfully to offer their heartiest congratulations to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen Empress, on the celebration of the Jubilee of Her Majesty's Reign, and fervently pray that Her Majesty may be blessed with long life, health and prosperity.

19th June 1887.

No. 2449-P.

From H. A. D. Phillips, Esquire, Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial, Political and Appointment Department.

To Nawab Abdool Lutef Bahadur, C. I. E.

Dated Calcutta, the 2nd August 1887.

SIR,—At the request of the Government of India, I am directed to ask you to be so good as to convey to the Mahomedan community of Calcutta, the thanks of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, for their congratulatory telegram, sent on the occasion of the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee in England.

## RESTITUTION OF CONJUGAL RIGHTS.

From A. P. MacDonnell, Esq., C. S., Secretary to the Government of India. To the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, the Chief Secretary to the Government of the North Western Provinces and Oudh, the Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, the Chief Commissioner of Burmah, the Chief Commissioner of Assam, the Chief Commissioner of Coorg, and the Resident at Hyderabad.—Home Department, Judicial.—Simla, the—June, 1887.

Sir,—I am directed to forward the accompanying copy of a letter\*

\*No. 1973, dated 30th March, 1887. from the Government of Bombay containing a proposal for amending the provisions of Section 260 of the Code of

Civil Procedure, 1882, so far as they relate to the execution of decrees for the restitution of conjugal rights. It will be seen that this

† Indian Law Reports 9, Bombay 529. proposal is made with reference to the case of Dadaji Bhikaji *versus* Rukhmbai, recently decided by the High Court at Bombay, and that, as regards the form

Indian Law Reports 10, Bombay 301. which the amendment might take, an opinion is expressed that it will perhaps be sufficient to follow the course adopted by the English legislature, and, while retaining the suit for restitution of conjugal rights, to exempt the person against whom a decree is made in such suit from liability to imprisonment.

2. The Indian law recognizes two classes of suits by a husband for the purpose of obtaining the society of his wife, namely:—

(a) for the recovery of a wife (Act XV of 1877, Schedule II, article 34); and

(b) for restitution of conjugal rights (Act XV of 1877, Schedule II, article 35).

The execution of decrees in suits of these kinds is provided for in Section 259 and in Section 260 of the Civil Procedure Code respectively. With the first class of suit, which is an action to recover a wife out of the possession of a person who is harbouring her, we are not now directly concerned, though, if legislation in regard to the second class of suit be considered expedient, it may be desirable to take advantage of the opportunity to clearly establish the distinction between the two classes of suits. In regard to the second class, it is to be observed that the law which recognizes the relation of husband and wife recognizes also that the husband is bound to live with the wife, and the wife with the husband. The suit for the restitution of conjugal rights is therefore an useful one, provided that no means which are indefensible on moral or social grounds are adopted to enforce compliance with a decree given in such a suit. Under the Hindoo law, "it is one of the express conditions in the nuptial vow that each should be the associate of the other; and the sages denounce the desertion or neglect of either party by the other as punishable in this world and in the next." (Jogendro Siromani's Commentary, page 96.) If, then, the obligation be denied by either of the parties to the marriage, it is only just that Courts should declare the right to exist. A difficulty, however, arises when the Courts have to deal with a refusal to perform conjugal duties by one of the parties to the marriage, and the question for consideration is in what way the State ought to interfere to enforce such performance.

3. The earlier practice of the Indian Courts by which "the wife was given bodily into the husband's hands" may have been in accordance with Hindoo usage; but in the case of Chohur Bibee *versus* Ameer Chund (6 W. R., C. R. 105), it was held that disobedience to the order of a Court directing a wife to return to cohabitation fell within the scope of Section 200 of the Civil Procedure Code of 1859, and might be dealt with either by imprisonment or attachment of property, or by both. This view was adopted by the

Privy Council (11 Moore I. A., 551) and thus not unnaturally became incorporated in Section 260 of the revised Code of 1877, on which section the provisions contained in the Code now in force are based. It has been represented to the Government of India that the earlier practice above referred to, as well as that of subjecting a reluctant wife to imprisonment, are alike repugnant to modern ideas; and it has been suggested that, as a remedial measure, the best course will, as proposed by the Bombay Government, be to follow the movement of the English law, especially if by so doing the Indian legislation in this matter can be brought into greater conformity with the ordinary practice of civilized nations. By the English law (47 and 48 Vic., cap. 68) it is enacted that—

(1) a decree for restitution of conjugal rights shall not be enforced by process against the person (Section 2);

(2) when the application is made by the wife, the Court may order that, in the event of the decree not being complied with, the respondent shall make payments as for alimony (*ibid*);

(3) when the application is made by the husband, the Court may order the property of the wife to be paid or settled for the benefit of the petitioner and children of the marriage (Section 3);

(4) the Court may vary any order for payment as it may think just (Section 4);

(5) non-compliance with the decree shall be deemed desertion, and a suit for judicial separation may be forthwith instituted. If a husband has also been guilty of adultery, the wife may petition for dissolution of marriage (Section 5);

(6) the Court may make order for custody, maintenance, and education of children (Section 6).

4. As divorce is easily arranged among Mahomedans, and as it is also common among many castes of the Hindoo community, although forbidden by the written law, it has further been suggested, with reference to point (5) above, that non-compliance with the decree should be made a ground for dissolving the marriage upon the application of either party, provided—

(a) that compensation were given to the party divorced; and

(b) that a suitable and effective arrangement were made for providing for the children of the marriage.

5. Finally, it has been suggested that if any action in the directions above indicated be taken, it will be necessary, with a view to uniformity of law and practice, to repeal the penalty clause of Section 36 of the Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act, XV of 1865.

6. Before coming to a final determination on these suggestions, the Governor-General in Council thinks it desirable to ascertain the views of Local Governments and Administrations in regard to them. I am accordingly to request that you will be good enough to move (the Governor in Council and His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor\*), after such enquiry and consultation with those members of the various communities concerned who are most competent to advise the Government on such questions, to favour the

\*And Chief Commissioner in the case of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

Government of India with an expression of his—your—opinion on the questions referred to above as soon as he—your—conveniently can.

## THE BEAMES' CASE.

Simla, the 14th July 1887.

From—A. P. MacDonnell, Esq., Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Department.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

In your letter No. 20811, dated 6th May last, you submitted an explanation by Mr. John Beames of the Bengal Civil Service, an Officiating Member of the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, regarding certain debts which he incurred while Collector of Chumpanan in 1867 and Collector of Cuttack in 1876 respectively. In both of these instances Mr. Beames borrowed money from persons not resident within the limits of his official jurisdiction. The debts have since been liquidated, and Sir Stuart Bayley expressed the opinion that the loans were contracted in an open way, and as an ordinary matter of business, and that they called for no further notice from Government. Although the Government of India considered it matter for regret that a member of the Covenanted Civil Service should have incurred debts to natives even in circumstances not prohibited by rule, the Governor-General in Council agreed with his Honor in thinking that no further action was called for.

2. You now in your letter No. 118J—D, dated 22nd June, have brought to the notice of the Government of India that in two other cases Mr. Beames has infringed the provisions of section five of Regulation VII. of 1823, which impose upon a member of the Covenanted Service the obligation of disclosing to the Governor-General in Council the fact of his indebtedness to any person residing within a district to the charge of or employment in which he may be appointed subsequent to the contraction of the debt. It appears that Mr. Beames, while officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division, borrowed money from a native gentleman named Umesh Chunder Mandal, resident in Hooghly. After the loan had

been contracted, Mr. Beames was appointed to officiate as Collector of the Hooghly District, and failed to comply with the requirement of the Regulation above mentioned by reporting the fact of his indebtedness.

In the second case Mr. Beames borrowed money from Messrs. Srinath Roy and Company of Calcutta, who, it appears, possess property in Dacca, a district in the division to the charge of which Mr. Beames was, after contracting the loan, appointed for three months. It does not appear that Mr. Beames at the time of his appointment as officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division knew that Messrs. Srinath Roy and Company owned property in Dacca, but he became aware of this fact a short time before the expiry of his acting appointment. In this case also Mr. Beames omitted to report to Government the fact of his indebtedness to a person resident or possessing property within his jurisdiction.

3. In your letter under notice, his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, while stating that Mr. Beames has violated the spirit and letter of the Regulation, expresses the opinion that there is not a shadow of suspicion as to his official honesty, and that no suggestion has ever been made that his official action has been in any way influenced by his pecuniary obligations. Sir Stuart Bayley recognizes the necessity for visiting with punishment the breach of a regulation upon the observance of which it is so essential for Government to insist, but at the same time he brings to notice the fact that Mr. Beames has always borne "the highest character for zeal, straightforwardness and efficiency," and adds that the difficulties which led to his contracting these loans have not been the result of personal extravagance.

4. In the circumstances as above described, the Governor-General in Council has come to the conclusion that the breach of rule of which Mr. Beames has been guilty is not so aggravated as to call for the imposition of the extreme penalty authorized by the Regulation. Further, it is willingly admitted that Mr. Beames' personal character and his public services, to which the Lieutenant-Governor bears emphatic tribute, should be considered in mitigation of the consequences of his transgression. On the other hand, his Excellency in Council is unable to regard in other than a serious light disobedience of the Regulations imposed by the Government on the servants of the State in regard to borrowing. It is essential to the maintenance of discipline and of the high character which should obtain among Covenanted Civilians, that they should be free from any imputation of reproach in such matters and that the provisions of the Regulation should both in the letter and the spirit be strictly observed. The Governor-General in Council therefore requests that his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor will convey to Mr. Beames a formal expression of censure from the Government of India for the breach of the Regulation which has been committed by him. His Excellency in Council has further come, with great regret, to the conclusion that the period of Mr. Beames' present officiating appointment in the Board of Revenue must be at once terminated and that he should be transferred to a suitable appointment within the jurisdiction of which no native creditor of his resides, or has an estate or commercial establishment.

5. I am to add that should his Honor think it desirable, his Excellency in Council has no objection to this letter being made public.

#### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 27th July 1887.—In modification of the order of the 13th ultimo, Mr. A. Forbes, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 15th August 1887.

The 2nd August 1887.—Mr. J. T. Jarbo, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nelphamari, Rungpore, is transferred to Hazaribagh, and is appointed to have charge of the Giridhi sub-division of that district, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. D. J. Macpherson, or until further orders.

Mr. N. Warde-Jones, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is appointed to have charge of the Nelphamari sub-division, in the district of Rungpore.

This cancels the order of the 28th July 1887, appointing Mr. N. Warde-Jones to have charge of the Giridhi sub-division in the district of Hazaribagh.

The 4th August 1887.—Mr. A. L. McGavin, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serajgunge, Pubna, is appointed temporarily to be a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the seventh grade.

The 5th August 1887.—The services of Baboo Nundjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakhally, are placed at the disposal of the Revenue Department of this Government for employment on the survey and record of rights in the Doobulhati estate in the district of Rajshahye.

Mr. J. L. Herald, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Baraset, 24-Pergunnahs, was employed temporarily at the Sudder station of the Chittagong Hill Tracts district from the afternoon of the 23rd November 1886 to the forenoon of the 1st March 1887.

Mr. A. P. Pennell, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Naraingunge, Dacca, is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector.

Mr. A. E. Staley, c. s., has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of furlough for twelve months.

Moulvie Sujat Ali Ahmed, Sub-Deputy Collector, Tumlook, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Horo Chunder Ghose, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Hooghly, is transferred temporarily to Tumlook, during the absence, on leave, of Moulvie Sujat Ali Ahmed, or until further orders.

Baboo Mohini Mohun Chuckerbutty, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is allowed leave for three weeks, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

The 8th August 1887.—Mr. C. Cuthbertson, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Tipperah, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of Dacca.

The 9th August 1887.—Mr. J. C. Lloyd, Sub-Deputy Collector, Pubna, is transferred to Rungpore, with effect from the afternoon of the 2nd June 1887.

Baboo Sitanath Mookerjee, Sub-Deputy Collector, Rungpore, is transferred to Pubna, with effect from the date on which he joined that district.

Mr. N. S. Alexander, Commissioner, Burdwan Division, is allowed leave for one month and nineteen days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 16th instant.

Mr. E. V. Westmacott, Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Howrah, is appointed to act as Commissioner, Burdwan Division, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. N. S. Alexander, or until further orders.

Mr. N. Warde-Jones, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is allowed leave for one week, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 19th April last.

Moulvie Shah Mahomed Azam, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Purneah, is allowed leave from the 15th instant, or any subsequent date, up to the 14th November 1887, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code.

JUDICIAL.—The 1st August 1887.—Mr. A. Ahmad, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Burdwan, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

The 4th August 1887.—Kumar Girendra Narain Deb, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Baboo Rash Behary Naik, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cuttack, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class.

Under the authority vested in him by the final clause of section 357 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882, the Lieutenant-Governor empowers Baboo Mohendra Lal Ghose, Munsif of Chattrra, in the district of Hazaribagh, who exercises the powers of a Magistrate of the second class, to take down evidence in criminal cases in the English language.

The 6th August 1887.—Baboo Bolac Chand, Subordinate Judge of Purneah, is allowed leave for one month, under section 73, rule 1, of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Gopal Chunder Bose, First Munsiff of Buxar, in the district of Shahabad, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge of Purneah, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Bolac Chand, or until further orders.

Baboo Gopal Chunder Bose, is vested with the powers of a Small Cause Court Judge for the disposal of suits cognizable by such a court, not exceeding Rs. 50 in value within the local limits of the Sudder Munsiff of Purneah.

Baboo Jogendro Nath Mukerjee, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Shahabad, to be ordinarily stationed at Buxar during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Gopal Chunder Bose, or until further orders.

The 9th August 1887.—Mr. J. H. Bernard, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sarun, is vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

*Holloway's Pills.*—Epidemic Diseases.—The alarming increase of English cholera and diarrhoea should be a warning to every one to sudue at once any irregularity tending towards disease. Holloway's Pills should now be in every household to rectify all impure states of the blood, to remedy weakness, and to overcome impaired general health. Nothing can be simpler than the instructions for taking this corrective medicine, nothing more efficient than its cleansing powers, nothing more harmless than its vegetable ingredients. Holloway's is the best physic during the summer season, when decaying fruits and unwholesome vegetables are frequently deranging the bowels, and daily exposing thousands, through their negligence in permitting disordered action, to

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

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No. 287

## The Week.

THE Mormons were miserable enough in their polygamous Purgatory of Utah, seeing that a single wife is too many for most of us. And now they are without a head—their last President JOHN TAYLOR being dead. The persecution of the United States Government of course continues.

THE Raja of Faridkote sent, through the local Government, a congratulatory telegram on the Jubilee to the Queen-Empress, and accompanied it with Rs. 200, the cost thereof. The sum has been paid back to the Raja with the intimation that his telegram had been transmitted free of cost. That is like the White Mogul Dufferin.

AN Englishman residing in America asked Mr. MOODY to organize an evangelistic campaign in India, and in proof of his earnestness enclosed a cheque for £5,000. Queer Englishman to find no opportunity for spending the amount on the 'Heathens' at hand. Where were the famous experts in the 'cute land that this gentleman could not be relieved of his superfluous 25,000 dollars?

DR. GRAWITZ, an Assistant of Professor VIRCHOW, has come to the conclusion that about one-third of the cases of muscular rheumatism are due to trichinæ or pork worms. He is also of opinion that the parasites must have been in the muscles for many years. Let the good Hindu or Mussulman beware of confessing to anything like rheumatism!

IN commemoration of the visit of the Lieutenant-Governor to Durbunga, Baboo BRIJ BHARI LAL has contributed Rs. 5,000 for a complete survey of the town for drainage purposes. This kind of adulation is becoming too common. If they cannot give for the love of God and the good of their souls, they may at any rate give for vanity. That is nobler by far than this grovelling fetishism.

HIS Royal Highness ALBERT EDWARD, Prince of Wales, K. G., has been appointed Honorary Admiral of the Fleet in Her Majesty's Fleet. Why is not the Heir Apparent declared *ex officio* hero, on flood and field, Master and Doctor of all Arts and Sciences, Chancellor of all the Universities, President of the Royal Society, the Astronomical Society, the Anthropological, the Geological, &c., of the Royal Academies of Art and of Music, and the rest of them. The loyal British who have brought into the world the original idea that the king can do no wrong and the doctrines of Divine Right and Passive Submission, should not mince matters with Royalty.

"J. H." writes under date Bombay, August 11, to the *Times of India* :—  
"On driving along Grant Road at 9-30 A.M., to-day, I noticed crowds of natives picking up small pieces of metal from off the road. I found the same in the Upper and Lower Duncan Roads and Jugjeevun Keeka Street. On inquiry, I found the metal had come down with a heavy shower. The natives called it silver. I secured two pieces and applied the test for silver without effect. I believe the metal to be platinum. The pieces shine like silver, are all alike nearly  $\frac{1}{16}$ th of an inch in diameter, 1-64th of an inch thick, slightly concave on one side and convex on the other. Seeing that the fall of metal was for more than one mile in length, there cannot be the least doubt of the metal coming from the sky, and it would be interesting if any of your correspondents can account for such a strange phenomenon. I shall be happy to hand over the two pieces of metal to any one competent to analyze it."

That's a proper miracle! Wonders have never been wanting in this world, but they have all been inconsequential—miserable abortions for the most part. Oracles usually content themselves with a prudent play on words. Even spirits are brought out from the vasty unknown to tell copy-book truths or play on accordions or lift up small tables in the air. What is the good of miracle if it will not relieve us of the primeval curse to live by the sweat of our brow? Yes, by all means let us have showers of metals, the more precious the better. Platinum is a good beginning. Let the gods try again and shower gold dust.

DURING the Doorga Pooja holidays, the Custom House will be opened on Wednesday the 21st, Tuesday the 27th, Wednesday the 28th and Friday the 30th September, and will be closed on the 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 26th, and 29th September and Saturday the 1st October.

THE High Court closes for the Dussera from Monday next. Mr. Justice NORRIS and Baboo Justice CHUNDER MADHUB GHOSH have been told off for vacation duty. Mr. Justice TREVELYAN enjoys the holiday at home. He starts this evening for Bombay.

HERE'S the official tour programme of the Lieutenant-Governor from 21st August when he arrives at Hutwa to 9th September when he reaches Sara Ghat.

Sunday, August 21st	...	Hutwa	...	...	By road.
Monday, " 2nd	...	Halt.	...	...	
Tuesday, " 23rd	...	17 $\frac{1}{2}$ Sewan to Chapra	...	...	By road and rail.
Wednesday, " 24th	...	Halt.	...	...	
Thursday, " 25th	...	Patna.	...	...	
Friday, " 26th	...	Halt.	...	...	
Saturday, " 27th	...	Halt.	...	...	
Sunday, " 28th	...	Arrah	...	...	By rail.
Monday, " 29th	...	Dumraon	...	...	By rail.
Tuesday, " 30th	...	Sasseram	...	...	By road
Wednesday, " 31st	...	Buxar	...	...	By Buxar canal.
Thursday, Sept. 1st	...	Bankipur	...	...	By rail.
Friday, " 2nd	...	Gya	...	...	By rail.
Saturday, " 3rd	...	Halt.	...	...	
Sunday, " 4th	...	Bankipur	...	...	By rail.
Monday, " 5th	...	Leave Bankipur	...	...	By river.
Tuesday, " 6th	...	Rajmehal	...	...	By river.
Wednesday, " 7th	...	Leave Rajmehal	...	...	By river.
Thursday, " 8th	...	Arrive Rampore Beaulah	...	...	By river.
Friday, " 9th	...	Sara Ghat.	...	...	

THE new members of the Committee of Management of the Bethune School, are—the Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. R. TOTTENHAM, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice J. F. NORRIS, the Hon'ble Raja PEARY MOHAN MOOKERJEE, Baboos PRASANNO KOOMAR ROY, UMESH CHUNDRA DUTT and JANAKEYNATH GHOSAL.

PROFESSOR A. H. CHURCH, professor of Chemistry in the Royal Academy of Arts, London, recommends bisulphide of carbon for the prevention of the attacks of weevil upon corn and grain. It is to be applied thus—"a ball of tow is tied to a stick of such a length that it can be just plunged into the middle of the vessel containing the grain. The tow receives the charge of bisulphide like a sponge, and is then at once plunged into the sack or cylinder and left there, the mouth being tightly closed." The cost is 8d. for a ton of wheat.

UNDER orders of the Government of India, the Egerton Woollen Mills Company will be allowed to supply the great-coat cloth required

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by post money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

for the Madras Army. The Superintendent of Army Clothing, Madras, has received permission to enter into a contract with the Company for two years.

M. PASTEUR having come forward to fill the permanent secretaryship of the Paris Academy of Science, hitherto filled by DUMAS, the other candidates for the place have withdrawn.

THE Benares new bridge will be formally opened by the Viceroy on the 9th November, the birth day anniversary of the Prince of Wales, and will be named the Dufferin Bridge. In the meantime, they have decided wisely to run trains over it by the middle of next month. It is already open to foot passengers.

IT is indeed curious to read about HERR KRUPP who manufactured destructibles that—

"It was a standing order to all those who surrounded or approached him that the word 'death' was never to be mentioned or referred to in conversation within the precincts of his great establishment. Some years ago a relation of his wife's came to stay with him, and was taken suddenly ill and died. When Krupp heard of it he fled immediately to the neighbouring town of Dusseldorf, and would not return until after his relation had been duly buried. This very naturally led to a scene with his wife, the result being that they separated. Mrs. Krupp went to live at Dresden, and not even the entreaties of their son prevailed on Herr Krupp to see her before he died. The same stubbornness was shown by him when his son Fritz, who contested the parliamentary borough (Essen) at the last general election, in the interest of the Government was defeated by the 'ultra' or 'clerical party.' Herr Krupp issued an edict that no employe should take into his cottage or read the local papers of the Ultramontane party. A few days after this edict a poor workman being found wrapping up his 'Butterbrod' in a sheet of this (of the interdicted party) journal was instantly dismissed."

THE Canadian Correspondent of the *Daily News* telegraphs—

"The Hon. G. Foster, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, has returned here (Ottawa) from a tour along the Gulf of St. Lawrence. He reports that the United States fishermen are careful this season to observe the Canadian regulations. Further large deposits of coal have recently been discovered in the Canadian Rocky Mountains.

A fire has occurred in the bookbinding establishment of the Government printers here, by which the reports of the debates in the Dominion Senate and the Hansard of the House of Commons for last session have been almost completely destroyed."

BEFORE being relieved of the duties of the Board of Revenue, Mr. JOHN BEAMES gave it as the opinion of the Board that receipts granted by a Railway Company to consignors and endorsed by the holder with an order to deliver the goods to another person or firm, are not liable to a stamp duty of one anna under article 26, schedule 1, of the Indian Stamp Act.

THE Punjab Frontier Crimes Regulation has been made applicable to the districts of Bannu, Dera Ismail Khan and Dera Ghazi Khan. Is this the Punjab Outrages Act again, the proposal of which we—then on the *Hindoo Patriot*—fought to the last in vain, in Lord LAWRENCE'S time? Since when, and how has it come to be called a Regulation? If it is a legislative ordinance having the force of law, it is an Act. Talk of a legislative Regulation after the Charter Act of 1833!

IT has been wired to the *Daily News* on the authority of a Washington telegram, namely:—

"Sir John Thurston, Governor of the Fiji Islands, the British Special Commissioner for Samoa, is in Washington for a conference with the State Department on affairs of common interest to civilised countries, chiefly the titles to lands held by foreigners, now much confused."

THE Bombay High Court was closed on the 6th out of respect to the memory of Sir MAXWELL MELVILL. Mr. Justice JARDINE, in closing his Court, said at once finely and feelingly—

"Early raised to the Bench of this High Court, Mr. Melvill brought and perfected here the judicial firmness and learning, the gentleness and moderation of mind, which he afterwards carried to the counsels of Government. These are times when even Justice has to mourn, and when those who serve in her temples desire to unite in an expression of common sorrow, and this is one of the mortal things which touch mortal minds. So in closing the Court to-day I feel that as a Judge I am in accord with the general desire to mark in a public and appropriate way our deep feeling of respect for the dead Justice."

Mr. FARNAN, in another Court, spoke of the high legal attainments, integrity, calm judgment, and unfailing courtesy of the deceased. The

Hon'ble Mr. JOHN MACPHERSON, acting Advocate-General, added the tribute of the Bar.

THE Andool Adoption case goes up to the Privy Council. On Thursday Mr. BONNERJEE obtained leave to appeal to Her Majesty in Council against the full bench order in *Surrendro Keshub Roy v. Ranees Doorga Soondaree Dassees* and another.

THE Hon'ble Syed AMEER HOSSEIN has sentenced a man to two months' rigorous imprisonment for 'theft of an umbrella owned by a pleader of his Court.

THE same Magistrate awarded the punishment of one month's labor to an opium-eater for carrying without the knowledge of the owner—a student of the Normal School—a *dhoti* placed on the verandah of the institution to dry. The Magistrate evidently intended to cure the thief of both his evil habits.

A CORRESPONDENT from Andool, in the Howrah district, informs us that there rural society is being exercised about a scandal in high life which has at length matured itself into litigation. A highly respectable gentleman, son of a late Pandit of position and influence, had taken a fancy to a woman of the town to whom he paid his visits. In time he grew so fond of her as to become jealous. Accordingly, a period of bickering and quarrels succeeded the cuckoo period of unsophisticated undoubting faith. At last, matters have come to court. It is said that the woman has complained to the magistracy. Whatever the merits, even if it should be proved that the gentleman had nothing to do with the girl, the very fact of such a complaint is a great humiliation to him and to the place. This kind of litigation is a new feature in the social life of the people. Our correspondent adduces the case as evidence of the demoralisation from the outstill system.

HERE is an interesting case in the Holkar's District Court of Indore:—

"The District Judge (Mr. Acharya) has been engaged in the hearing of a singular case in which the parties before him are of the Gosain caste. It appears that one Pirthipuri adopted one Lochhipoori as his *chella* or disciple and died leaving the *Chella* and a widow behind him surviving. Subsequently, Lochhipuri also died, when Pirthipuri's widow adopted to the deceased another *chella* by name Somawarpuri according to her caste rules. He, however, was found quite incompetent to hold the office; consequently she adopted another *chella* named Dashratpuri. The latter was afterwards discarded for his misconduct and Ganeshpuri was brought in his place. This took place many years ago and now the discarded *chella* Dashratpuri brings a suit against the widow and Ganeshpuri for the recovery of all property belonging to the deceased Pirthipuri. The suit involves a nice question of inheritance and the result is keenly watched by the Gosain community. The other questions involved are whether the widow has authority to take any one in adoption and to remove him from *chella's* office at any time she likes, disentitling him from inheriting any property of the man for whom the adoption is once made."—*Central India Times*, 16th August.

ON the 5th instant, Mr. BRANSON, acting Advocate-General, applied before Mr. KERNAN in the High Court for an order that an additional issue be framed in the case of *Kotasawmy Tevar versus* the minor Zemindar of Guntamanaikanur, and read an affidavit by Mr. HAMMICK, guardian of the defendant in support of the application. Plaintiff's counsel asked for more time, but the judge would rather hear the affidavit, which was read. Its substance is as follows:—

"That some months subsequent to the date of settlement of issues herein, I, for the first-time, heard that Mr. W. F. Grahame, Civil Sessions Judge of Tinnevely, had met plaintiff at Madura in or about the month of June 1884, and that in the course of conversation between them plaintiff had voluntarily informed the said W. F. Grahame that Mr. Crole, then Collector of Madura, was in the habit of taking bribes, and that the reason why plaintiff was not liked by Mr. Crole was that he would not give him a bribe. That I am advised by counsel that it is very doubtful whether any of the issues which have been settled herein will cover the above evidence, and that it is necessary that a further issue should be raised as to whether the action of plaintiff himself has not contributed to the existence or the prevalence of rumours which the infant defendant, in his statement of 5th March 1886 before two members of the Court of Wards, stated were common in the Madura district, and whether if so such statement was not justified or excused so far as plaintiff is concerned, and defendant exempted from all liability in respect thereof."

VERILY, the times are out of joint! The very tailors, meekest of God's worms crawling on the globe, their spirit, as their human form erect,

bent under the influence of their occupation, are getting fierce as the wild Moplah or Malay. One of them down South has shown life and human nature enough to lie in wait, razor in pocket, for his runaway mistress at the village fountain. As befitted his class, however, the fellow was far from furious in his vindictiveness. In the most business-like way he asked her, when he met her, to return to his protection—including the kicks and cuffs which had scared her way—but she would not be persuaded. Then he cut her throat with the instrument he had borrowed of another profession. She lies in a precarious state at the Roypetta hospital. The barbers should be down on him for putting the razor to such base use as drawing innocent woman's blood. Alas for woman in India to be at the mercy of the fraction of humanity!

MR. WHITWORTH, Judicial Assistant, Kattywar, has decided for the defendant in the suit of the Thakore of Palitana against his younger brother Kumar SAMUTSINGJEE for the eleven lacks of Rupees removed out of the Palitana jurisdiction.

THE Judicial Committee of the Privy Council have restored SONTHEKAL KRISHNA ROW to his place in the roll of second grade pleaders from which he was displaced by the Judicial Commissioner of Coorg.

THE *Times of India* thus delivers itself on the Langworthy case:—

"The 'New Journalism,' as it is called, has certainly achieved a notable triumph in securing justice for a much-wronged woman, Mrs. Langworthy. This has been achieved in the face of almost insuperable difficulties, and six months ago it looked any odds against the helpless, penniless, and, in the eyes of the world, discredited lady fighting against unlimited wealth, the great legal assistance such wealth can always secure, and an unscrupulous man who kept himself away from English jurisdiction by residing in the Argentine Republic. It is certain that no human agency could have brought the scoundrel, Edward M. Langworthy, to book but a free and outspoken press. The result shows what an all-powerful engine for good or for harm the press of the world has now become. In this case the *Pall Mall Gazette* took up the cry, and it was repeated in every civilized country. Funds flowed in to assist Mrs. Langworthy to fight for her rights, and even in South America the coward who had betrayed her found himself shunned by everyone like a pestilent creature. We need not repeat the strange, sad, not unromantic, in many ways repulsive Langworthy story; everyone who reads the newspapers is in possession of the facts. The telegraph now informs us that tardy justice has been done, and that Mrs. Langworthy has received £20,000 down, while a provision of £500 a year has been made for her child. The story, however, will have a sequel. It may have been observed that a private bill has been introduced into the House of Commons to legalize the marriage at Antwerp, which was a proper marriage ceremony in every respect save for the omission of some formalities prescribed by Belgian law. In the case of Langworthy, this marriage was a deliberate and perjured fraud, but other persons are known to have been married in the same way and by the same clergyman without knowing that the ceremony was invalid. Thus, the Bill will be for the relief of other innocent persons besides Mrs. Langworthy. When it becomes law, her little girl will have her birth legitimised, and she will become the heir of the great Langworthy estates in the Argentine Republic, which by the law of that land her father will then be unable to alienate from her, his only legitimate child. Pilloried before all the world, and condemned to heap his riches on those he has cruelly wronged, the punishment of Edward M. Langworthy is poetically complete."

THE joke in Madras is that

"Mr. Irvine, C. S., District Judge at Trichinopoly, will, it is reported, succeed Mr. F. Brandt on the High Court Bench, unless he accepts the Post at the Medical Jurisprudence Department at the India office, the High Court having recommended him for the 'billet,' on account of his famous judgment in Lalo Khan's Case, where he laid down the law, that a bruise was worse than a fracture. Mr. J. Davies, C. S., District Judge of Tanjore, it is said, will be appointed to the Agricultural Department, as he sold the Zemindar Poondytandya's estates valued Rs. 30,000, by auction for Rs. 2,000, so that the Plaintiffs lost Rs. 6,000 by the transaction. Both these Judges are most popular with all the Pleaders, who are very anxious to see some other Judges take their places, as the litigators are very shy about filing Suits and Appeals."

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—Few persons are so favoured by circumstances, or so fortified by nature, as to enable them to pass unscathed the sore trials of an inclement season. With catarrhs, coughs, and influenzas everywhere abounding, it should be universally known that Holloway's Ointment, diligently rubbed upon the chest, checks the worst assaults of these maladies, and securely wards off more grave and dangerous diseases of the throat and lungs. The truth of this assertion must remain unquestioned in the face of thousands of unimpeachable living witnesses, who have personally derived the utmost possible benefits from this treatment when their present sufferings were appalling, and their future prospects most disheartening. Both remedies act admirably together.

• That seems a queer evidence of popularity, unless the word bears a new signification down South. The arithmetic too is beyond us. It only remains to add that we quote the above second hand from the *Law Times*, correcting the press as far as we could see our way.

## Editorial Notes.

THE *Mahratta* noticing our hint of apprehension that Lord REAY might resign over the Cambay scandal, opines:—

"We do not think Lord Reay ought to resign the service simply because one of his recommendations was not sanctioned by the Secretary of State for India. The resignation of Mr. Wilson reads curious commentary on his acquittal. Every one takes much the same view of his resignation as we have done. However we do not like to speak further on this point as the full text of the Secretary of State's orders in the matter is not before us."

Yes, that is prudent. Our brother and the rest of us—not excluding the centre of the universe, the writing Ego himself—had better reserve their full and deliberate judgment till the materials for it are laid before us. Everything will depend on the process by which the Secretary of State arrived at his decision.

RUKMIBAI's worthy husband is a chip of the same block—we mean a worthy member of the brotherhood of Sonars—the worshipful company of goldsmiths. In his prosecution, before Mr. HAMILTON at the Fort Police Court, against Mr. GRATTAN GEARY, Editor, *Bombay Gazette*, for libel in publishing RUKMIBAI's letter rebutting the statements made by DADAJI in his 'exposition,' he admitted in cross-examination that he had kept a woman, of a different caste from his own, in his house for fourteen years, for six of which he gave her wages, afterwards discontinuing to do so. He likewise admitted that his wife had jumped into a well, but pretended not to know whether that extreme act was committed on account of the woman in question. He made other admissions besides, not, however, without frequently contradicting himself.—Mr. GRATTAN GEARY, addressing the Court in his own defence, maintained that there was a substratum of truth in the allegations made in RUKMIBAI's letter, and contended that his case came within the exceptions in the Penal Code. He delivered the original copy of RUKMIBAI's letter to the Court, and the charge was withdrawn on his verbal expression of regret; he would not give a written apology. For once, a man who conducted his own case had no fool for his client.

The whole Press should rejoice at this termination of a frivolous prosecution. One of the most eminent of its Chiefs has scored a substantial triumph for it, at the same time that he has distinctly raised his own reputation, as well for courage and honour as for talent and tact.

IN reply to a question to the Under-Secretary for India from Colonel HUGHES-HALLETT, on the 15th July, as to whether it was in contemplation to give effect to the suggestions made in Blue book 'Beluchistan, No. 3,' published in 1878, which opened with a despatch from the Marquis of Salisbury, then Secretary of State for India, dated February 3, 1876, Sir JOHN GORST replied:—

"The transfer of the province of Sind from Bombay to the Punjab is not at present under the consideration of Government. But the hon. member's question will have the effect of drawing the attention of the Government of India to the subject, which will receive the attention which its importance deserves."

On this subject the *Sind Times* writes:—

"So far as commercial considerations are concerned the change is certainly desirable. But administrative considerations are of paramount interest, and they point to the present arrangement as the best."

To Mr. A. O'CONNOR's question, whether it was a fact that the Public Works Department had capped with a corrugated iron roof, painted and boarded up, and turned into a post-office a mosque at Bijapur, which "is perfect in structure and beautiful in decoration," Sir J. FERGUSSON answered: "The Secretary of State knows nothing of the act of vandalism alleged by the hon. member, but inquiries shall be made," adding, with official coolness, in the same breath—"I may add that when the mosque was turned into a post-office the greatest care was taken to preserve its architectural features."

To the unsophisticated outsider that is a pretty puzzle. Did the utterer of this neat reply seek to make a distinction between the Secretarial and the Under-Secretarial consciousness?—between the official knowledge of Lord CROSS and the personal knowledge of Sir



JAMES FERGUSSON? That there is any practical difference between the state of mind of the two men in power, is rendered dubious by the reply as a whole. Nevertheless, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary has the assurance—we mean, gravely assures the House—that “the Secretary of State knows nothing,” “but inquiries shall be made.” They may and must be made, but after the important addition by Sir J. FERGUSSON one would suppose that there was no further need for them, and the Government servants might be more usefully employed than in discovering the known and reporting the admitted. They can now only give evidence showing that in diverting the mosque to low uses, “the greatest care was taken to preserve its architectural features.” If an able official and enterprising, the reporter might add that it was in the interest of the temple of Islam that it was turned to an office.

FRANCE has lately lost one of her great men of science. Dr. VULPAIN died in his own apartments in the Rue Soufflot, the home of his favourite pursuits. He fell in the field of honour. It was in the dissecting room of the *Ecole de Medicine* that he contracted the malignant pneumonia which killed him, despite the assiduous care of the best of the faculty, including such men as Drs. POTAIN, CHARGOT and CROUZAT. Death as usual got the better of science!

His absolute scientific honesty, was much appreciated. He was frequently chosen an arbiter of the differences arising among medical men. A French nobleman has observed—“We have lost in M. Vulpain a grand *savant*, who was an honour to the science, and a man of property, who honored humanity: it is for this double title that his loss has been irreparable to France.”

In the midst of the rejoicings of the *fête* of the 14th July, that a profoundly moving if not master spirit of France passed away for ever, when M. CARO, the spiritualist philosopher, succumbed to the diseases of the lungs.

A few particulars only have transpired about him. He was born in Poitiers in 1826. After leaving college, he went to Algiers and next to Angers, where he married, the fruit of that union was an only daughter, who died before him.

It will be more to the purpose to mention his works. At a time when so much interest has been excited by Theosophy, and a reaction of Transcendentalism is visible in India and elsewhere, some of our readers might be curious to acquaint themselves with the speculations of a French writer who has all along led the opposition against the materialism of the day. The most important of M. CARO'S publications are *Saint Dominique et les Dominicains*; *Mysticism au XVIIIe Siecle*, *Probleme de morale sociale*; *Pessimisme au XIXe Siecle*; *Etudes Morales sur le temps present*; and *L'Idée de Dieu*.

THE Madras *Law Times* is wroth with the *Malabar and Travancore Spectator* for speaking of it contemptuously, not only criticising its conduct, mechanical and literary, but also going the length of charging its proprietor with being a “screw”. That was the most unkindest cut of all. In replying to this last imputation on the liberality of its proprietary, the *Law Times* begins, as befits a law journal, in the phraseology of the law, but ends in a diction neither elegant nor accurate, set to worse disadvantage by careless printing, as follows:—

“Furthermore the writer goes a step beyond his Jurisdiction to animadvert upon matters between the Proprietor of our paper and its late manager, NOT E THE EDITOR forsooth!!! as the writer of that article presumptuously asserts viz. ‘What however can be expected of a Law Journal that pays its Editor Rs. 30 only from which is deducted Rs. 10 for the use of an empty garet. This our Proprietor most emphatically denies and challenges contradiction, as the empty garet alluded to; is the upper Story of the Office Premises which the Late Manager was allowed to occupy for gratis.’”

Not content with the defensive, the Law editor pursues his advantage and carries the war to the very heart of the enemy's position, thus:—

“Need we remind the Editor of our proud contemporary the period of time when he served this Journal for Rs. 5 per week. *Oh Tempora!! Oh Mores!!* Moreover a little Bird has whispered to us just at this critical moment about a certain special Reporter who accompanied our esteemed Governor in a recent tour and having run short of funds indebted upon the Private Secretary for a loan of Rs. 30 which was not repaid until after that officer had intimated the circumstance sometime afterwards to the Proprietor of the highly respected journal; the “*Madras Times*” by whom he was employed and consequently upon such a misdemeanour was severely reprimanded and the money refunded.”

There at all events, the Law man might have stopped. But we mortals have been cursed with blindness as to our vocation. So our contemporary must indulge in parody and perpetrate doggerel:—

“We trust the Editor of the Malabar and Travancore Spectator will read, mark and inwardly digest these facts for his future good conduct.

Oh! Thackerill is it you dear,  
So very far—far away;  
Trying hard to hit the “*Law Times*” here,  
Yo’ul ne’er succeed—to have your sway;”

We need scarcely say that we have reprinted all the three passages *verbatim et literalim*—to the smallest points.

WE have received, during the week, the following Telegrams from Cuttack:—

“At a grand meeting attended by more than 1000 people of the Bhagabut Bhacti Prodayinee Sabha, held on Saturday (13th) last, at the Gopaljee's matt, Cuttack, the following resolutions were passed: (1.) This meeting is very much aggrieved and terrified at one Brahmin boy of Cuttack Medical School having been converted to Brahmoism and two Brahmin boys of Cuttack Academy having thrown away their sacred thread being converted to that religion, and this meeting considers that unless some rule be framed against the school boys changing their religion, education of this backward province will suffer. (2.) The public, believing that the Deputy Inspector of Cuttack, who is Acharjya of Cuttack Brahmo Somaj, having converted one of them, and a teacher of the Academy having encouraged two others to throw off their sacred thread, this meeting considers that the religious policy of Government has not been properly carried out, and this ought to be remedied. (3.) That a memorial signed by the public be sent to Government through the Commissioner and copies to the Director of Public Instruction and Chairman, District Board, Cuttack. The public are curious to know how long Madhusudan the said Deputy Inspector and Acharjee of Brahmo Somaj, Cuttack, will be allowed to remain here by recommendation of his personal friend, the Joint Inspector, without being transferred to another district, under the rules of the Education Department, as he has already served in this district for more than five years.”

“In addition to information furnished regarding Kendrapara Baldevji endowment case, the following facts are disclosed—Ramprasanna complainant submitted, on 27th February 1886, a petition with affidavits to the Magistrate, Cuttack, praying for the withdrawal of the case from Mr. Fraser, Sub-Divisional Officer, stating that justice will not be done, the said officer being an intimate friend to Jagannath Bharamarabar Zemindar, notorious for his conduct to his rayyets, but the Magistrate did not grant the petition and poor Ramprasanna was ruined. The present case is also before Mr. Fraser, and the public anxiously wait to see how he will dispose of it. It is a pity that Government does not see the bad effects of an officer being stationed in one place for a long time. It is desirable that the former rule of stationing an officer at a place not exceeding three years be enforced. Why will not public and Government enquire into the miseries of Bhagalpore and Pooree done by Mr. Metcalfe, the Commissioner, Orissa Division?”

THE life of even the most bored or most boring of us being mostly limited to three score and ten, a fifty-year engagement or duration of any kind, must necessarily be an extraordinary occurrence. A golden wedding is as interesting a private ceremony as a royal Jubilee a public festival. They are equally rare as well as rich.

Yet many a human relation or institution fulfils the chronological condition without obtaining the honours of celebration. People are not counting the hours and days and years of any being or body about them. They do not count the term of any connection of theirs unless it involves a question of payment or of liberty in which they are intimately interested. Young in the *Night Thoughts*, says—

We take no note of time save by its loss.

That—with all deference to the peremptory Poet—is only partially true—to a small extent. It is only where a man has imperial leisure with the goodness of a Titus that he can afford the luxury of calculating, before daily going to bed, whether a day was lost or won. As a rule, in the modern world we are content to go through an allotted avocations and duties, without conscious thought of the hours. Of some people the chronological computation of their existence is taken charge of by others. They are all extraordinary men—that is more than ordinarily trying or enlivening or beneficent. Many, we are afraid, re-

ceive congratulations on their seventy-seventh birthday by way of a quiet hint that they are tarrying too long, that heirs and reversigners are impatient, and that friends have got sick of the oft-repeated jokes. It is reasonable to suppose that there are those of whom one cannot have too much, for whose long lives their neighbours are grateful to God and for sparing whom longer they still pray.

Of this select few, doubtless, is the great Missionary Bishop of the South. The admirers of Dr. CALDWELL in his diocese have calculated that he will have been fifty years in India in next November, in the active cure of souls, and they propose to celebrate the completion of the term in a suitable manner.

THE pigeon case in Karachi has been disposed off. ALI BAHADAR, the day-labourer, has had his day. The City Magistrate, Mr. GIBBONS, has fined ALI BAKSH, the Police Munshi, Rs. 10 and awarded half the amount to ALI BAHADAR as compensation. It is a poor compensation for the trouble and anxiety, the harassments and delay gone through and suffered. Nonetheless, is the conviction welcome, after so much delay, during which the Police manufactured evidence and succeeded in scaring away witnesses. A man was actually produced to swear that he and not the Police Munshi had fired the gun and killed the pigeons. Only one witness stuck, amidst the threats of the Police, to ALI BAHADOOR to the last, to corroborate his complaint. He too is a true Bahadoor, who ought to be duly honoured. We regret the local *Times* does not mention his name. The Magistrate satisfied himself of the truth of the charge by a local enquiry. The station interested itself in the case and the court was crowded. The matter came up before the Magistrate on the 6th, more than a month after the filing of the complaint, and order was passed on the 9th instant.

NOTWITHSTANDING the warning of the Press and the protest entered by the Commissioner in office, the by-election of the Baramanagar municipality was, as announced, last Saturday attempted. It was notified within the municipality that the selection would be limited to the two candidates of the previous by-election. This seems to be an after thought, for the notification in the Gazette was general, and proclamation to that effect had at first been made within the Municipal limits. The Joint-Magistrate of Sealdah went over at the usual hour to preside, but there were no voters to elect. The elected of the last occasion had appealed to Government for withdrawal of the notice of election and, by his pleader, repeated the protest before the polling officer. The electors evidently saw the force of the argument and withdrew without recording their votes. But the Joint could not be dissuaded. He had been deputed on duty and did his duty by declaring the other candidate elected without any votes of the electors, his name being simply proposed and seconded. This declaration only complicates matters, instead of rectifying the irregularity it was intended to mend. The elected Commissioner who had been enjoying the privileges of membership of the Board is not declared disqualified and yet another Commissioner is re-appointed to fill a vacancy not vacant. Two persons have thus been declared where only one is wanted. And who will decide as to who shall have the preference? The previous election ended in an affray in the street among the partizans of the candidates. We shall not be surprised if the two elected now fought out their battle in the municipal office.

We remark a "derangement of epitaphs" in our note at page 399 on the Rukmibai litigation, and hasten to correct the error before the number is out. For "worthy husband" in the first line of that note, read "husband's worthy uncle." We fear we have been unnecessarily severe on NARAIN DHURMKE. The report in the local *Times* does not bear out the impression formed from general accounts.

A STORY of a great and romantic and rather original crime comes from the South. On the first night of the month the pleasant station of Bangalore was thrown into a great commotion. At about eight o'clock, Jemadar Adjutant KONDIRAH, of the 12th Madras Infantry, shot subedar ABDUL GUFFAR of the same regiment, dead, with a revolver, near the regimental hospital. He next fired into another subedar's quarters, and then ran home to the lines and shut himself up in the house, with his wife, her mother, sister and the latter's three children. A sepoy guard was immediately sent to surround the house and capture him alive, with orders to fire only if KONDIRAH shot at any one of them. But the terrible man defied the enemy, threatening to shoot the first man who entered. The murderer then quietly partook of a hearty meal, dining on his arms so to say, after bawling out to his besiegers, in true soldierly language, that he was commander-in-chief of the situation. Thus the oppressive night passed away, the siege being maintained. In the morning he threw a note over the wall, addressed to Major-General ROWLANDS, commanding the division, offering to surrender to him and state his grievances. The General did not probably think it safe to put himself in the power of the man. Again, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, he sent another note to a similar effect to the Assistant Adjutant-General, declaring, by way of "soft sawder," that he would not take a European officer's life. It was impossible to treat with such an enemy, however. So the military waited

on the chapter of accidents. It was about noon, when three revolver shots were heard from inside KONDIRAH's intrenchment. What they meant nobody could make sure. KONDIRAH had possibly shot himself. But the investing party did not venture to effect an entrance. Speculation was soon set at rest by KONDIRAH himself announcing that he had shot his wife. At a quarter-past one o'clock in the afternoon, KONDIRAH called out that he was going to relieve his female relations of their anxiety and painful suspense by letting them out. He thereupon opened the door, and they ran out with their children. Here, at length, at any rate, was the opportunity for the besiegers to rush forward and gain the stronghold by the breach made for them. But there was no disposition for attempting the honours of the day. The besieged closed the door again, and almost immediately after three shots were heard. And then all was quiet. Still the investing army were in no hurry to peep within the dangerous enclosure. They were far too philosophical to evince any impertinent or puerile curiosity. Whatever was, was; and soon all will come out of itself, without unnecessary effort. On the military entering his quarters, they found KONDIRAH dead in the chair, having shot himself through the heart, and his wife lying dead at his feet. The only reason for KONDIRAH's act known is that he and the deceased subedar had a serious quarrel in Burmah about a woman.

The evidence at the inquest held on the murder, shows that KONDIRAH was talking to the subedar immediately before the tragedy about detailing men for a tug-of-war at some sports to be held the following day. KONDIRAH afterwards fired at subedar ABDUL KADUR of the same regiment, mistaking him for another subedar, but missed him. KONDIRAH's mother-in-law said his wife insisted upon his shooting her and then himself, after he told her he had murdered the subedar. She stood up while he shot at her, three bullets entering her body before she died. Just before shooting himself KONDIRAH mentioned the names of one native officer and five non-commissioned officers of the regiment whom he wished arrested, adding that if a certain private was flogged he would tell everything.

The whole case seems involved in mystery. No adequate motive is yet shown. But what a true glimpse into Oriental manners is presented by the *Suttee* of a wife whom KONDIRAH murdered with his own hand! What heroic woman! What unflinching constancy to resolve, not to be scared away by successive bullets! The situation was dramatic, of high tragedy.

But what shall we say of the pusillanimity of the military!

IN another column will be found a most important notice to Hindu gentlemen. Messrs. THOS. COOK & SON offer them a splendid opportunity for a week's trip to Darjeeling. It is a delightful prospect, and Messrs. THOS. COOK & SON deserve the thanks of the community for making such a provision for the coming holidays. We hope the hundred tickets will be soon taken up. The Hindu of the Gangetic valley who has not seen the Himalayas scarcely deserves the name.

A FRENCH Rakshasi has been convicted for murder. Madame BEL-LIGAND is a widow who having casually made the acquaintance of an architect of the name of COURTIVY at a *café*, had easily gone to the bad with him. The connection lasted with more or less warmth for fourteen months, until the man woke out of his dream and bethought of settling down with a wife who should bring her money. Such a bride he got and gave his inamorata the *congé*. She would hear of no such thing. She used all her eloquence and all her arts to dissuade him from his respectable views, but in vain. In the face of her threat, he married. Then came the persecution. One evening in October last, she waylaid him for the purpose of extorting money. On his refusal to pay, she delivered a tremendous blow on COURTIVY'S nose which felled him down. She did not wait to watch the effect of her fist, but in running away she herself tumbled down on the way and injured herself, as though on purpose, for she complained of COURTIVY as an unmanly cur that had so assaulted a poor woman whose only fault was that she loved him too well. COURTIVY not only denied the assault but, on the contrary, represented himself to be the victim of her violence. She was proved a liar and the assailant and was sent for a week to jail. She next pretended to be with child, by way of troubling him, but to no purpose. Thus repeatedly foiled, she meditated desperate vengeance. She planned an ambushade against her old lover. One evening as he was returning with a friend, M. LENDORMY—who, by the bye, had been a witness against her in the assault case—she suddenly sprang upon them

and threw on them the contents of a wide-mouthed bottle of vitriol. They were conveyed to hospital. M<sup>r</sup> LENDORMY lost an eye and COURTNY lingered through weeks of torture till he died. Madame BEL-LIGAND was arrested and sent to the lock-up, where she expressed her fiendish delight at success in killing two birds with one stone. She was only sorry when she heard that, she had permanently disfigured two girls, strangers, who were walking the street near her intended victims. She expressed her intention to have beef to disfigure COURTNY so that his wife would no longer fancy him nor enjoy his company and seek a divorce. This is not unlikely. It makes her out a fiend none the less. Though a Rakshasi, this French woman is not a she *Pret* or *Petni*—an imp of the dirty Indian type. This horrible virago is a rather nice lady. Particular in her habits, she is one of the numerous examples of cleanliness without the slightest tincture of godliness. A deliberate sinner and law-breaker, she was always prepared for the prison. Against that sudden contingency of being caught in the streets, she had provided herself, within the folds of her dress, with the requisites for washing and cleaning her person. For all that, she was far from ready for the penalty of her deeds. At the announcement of her sentence of lifelong imprisonment, she fainted away. What a paradox is man—particularly, woman!

THE papers regarding the Railway project from Mogul Serai to Puri are published in to-day's *Gazette of India*.

THE Marine Court on the *Mahratta* have come to the conclusion that

"Respecting the facts of the catastrophe, and the cause of the vessel striking, there is no dispute. She was being steered across a very strong spring flood-tide, and became out of control, so that she was set broad-side on to the shore. Our opinion as to the Pilot's judgment in bringing her into such a situation has been already given. We do not think that he was justified in taking his ship into the Eastern Gut on the first of a spring flood-tide, and we think that when he first found himself losing control of her, he should have let go both his anchors. We also think that he was to blame in not having the Chief Officer on the fore-castle standing by the anchor."

According to the Court's report, "the ship's officers and crew numbered 50, and there were 215 passengers." The only loss reported by drowning of the ship's company is the second engineer, and of the passengers, a woman and two children were drowned. The only authority for the number of passengers on board being, as we pointed out last week, a hearsay statement of the master, uncorroborated by any direct or other evidence, it is simple bare-facedness to record that only 4 four lives are missing. We have seen passengers who told us that the loss must have been considerable. The large number below the upper deck could not come out and perished miserably. The public cannot certainly be satisfied with this enquiry as to the loss of life. It remains to be seen whether Government accept the report on this head.

THE *Sir John Lawrence* Enquiry drags its slow length along. Mr. REILY was anxious to avoid the work of a "roving commission," nevertheless he has been unceasing in taking down evidence offered. The sensation created by Captain NEUSTEIN has been, in a great measure, counteracted by the un-cross-examined evidence of Messrs. BUSBY, YOUNG and others. A fresh disclosure has been made this week by the late Sub-Deputy Collector and Customs Officer Mr. MINDEN JOHN W. AUGIER. We quote a portion of his evidence:—

"On the 21st of June the *Curlow* came in. I boarded her and found she had excess passengers; she had 610 on board; which was 50 in excess of the number, 560, she was allowed to carry; but the captain challenged the tally, saying he had only 23 in excess. As there was no means of checking my numbers, the passengers having all disembarked, I was obliged to accept his figures, and I reported his having only 23 excess passengers on board. I sent the report on to Mr. Trevor Grant. He did nothing, to my knowledge, on that report. The next vessel was the *Sir John Lawrence*. She came in on the 24th of June. On that morning as I looked down the river, this vessel not having then come in, I noticed about 2½ miles from her mooring place, the masts of the vessel, evidently at anchor. The whole day had passed till three P. M., when I noticed one of Captain Bullock's launch, the *Jack*, leave her moorings and go down the stream, silently, because it is customary to blow a whistle to give notice for either landing or taking on board passengers. She ought to have blown the whistle. After two hours she returned with a crowd of passengers. I sent two of my trustworthy constables to count her passengers, while I went with two others on board the *Sir John Lawrence*, which had followed the launch up the river. I went on board at the jetty and saw the two constables, who went on board the launch, which was disembarking her passengers at her usual moorings. I went on board and sent for Captain Irvine, and also the agent, called Jogobundo Babu. I asked the captain to keep tally with me till this tally lasted. He said that there were no excess passengers on board, and there was no use giving this trouble. I insisted on the captain keeping tally with me. At the close of the

counting our tally agreed that there were 561 passengers on the *Sir John Lawrence*. Thereupon both the agent and captain declared that I had given them unnecessary trouble. By this time the counting of the passengers on the *Jack* was reported as 217.

"I have no hesitation in saying that there is no reliance to be placed upon the report of the subordinate police staff, and from the nature of the system it can never be satisfactory. When the ship arrives, very often at midnight, passengers may escape from all sides of the vessel without being detected. The Sub-Inspector, Mead constable, and policemen keeping tally are likely to make a mistake as not, because passengers disembark over a stage between the vessel and wharf. The stage is 6 feet wide and there is a general rush, sometimes one, sometimes six abreast, all pushing to get ashore, a single man counting. At the conclusion of the counting he reports what he likes. There is no means of either checking his counting or prosecuting the captain. In departures from Chandbally it is a common practice for passengers to go on board when the vessel has left the wharf and is in midstream; the police having returned after the final count. I have also noticed passengers go on board when the vessel is proceeding 500 yards from her moorings, and I have drawn the attention of my superior to this fact.

I have been down to Chandbally in these steamers, about ten times backwards and forwards. I came back on the *Lawrence* the last time. On this occasion I could not tell how many passengers there were; there were not as many as usual, as it was the slack time of the year. On board the *Seagull* on one occasion it has taken me half an hour to go the length of this room, and not a single passenger was then able to lie down, the lower deck was so crowded. The passengers were sitting close together. The *Seagull* does the passage in good weather in 14 or 16 hours; in foul weather it takes much longer. On dark nights, they anchor in the river and come up at daylight. I have noticed many passengers, after disembarking from all these ships, die from exhaustion caused by sea sickness. I saw them die within half an hour after disembarking. Last year in June and July I counted so many as 18 dead bodies in a day. These included bodies of pilgrims who came from Puri in launches. I have never been to Juggannath. I hear that these launches go to Juggannath. I saw three on one occasion die from the *Coconada*. During the pilgrim season I have seen 100 dead bodies. This season embraces a period from the middle of May to the end of September. I was there during this period. I saw at least 100 dead bodies there during the month. This was the case from the beginning of June to the end of July. It is impossible to state what number of these died who were passengers by these ships from Calcutta, and the numbers I have given include those who came in all the ships and launches. A good number includes those who come off the ships. There are no inquests held on these dead bodies."

THE *Retriever* and *Sir John Lawrence* Relief Committee are still at their benevolent work, relieving the sufferers. This week we are enabled to announce two reliefs, paid through us, namely, to GOBIND CHUNDER DAS's family Rs. 100 and PANCHU BEWA Rs. 75. And here we are bound to publicly acknowledge the assistance we have received from Baboo ANUND KISSEN MULLICK of Shampooker, as the medium of information and charity. He has, at great personal sacrifices, devoted himself to the good work. The difficulty of reaching the obscure sufferers has been felt by the Relief Committee itself. Our regret is that we have far too few men like Baboo MULLICK.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 1887.

### INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

INDIA, from of old, the dinner bell of Parliament, is just now farther disadvantaged as a subject of discussion in the Imperial Senate. In the present vehemence of party strife in Home politics, Colonial and Dependential questions have little chance. Everything is postponed to the settlement of the Irish Question. Nor is it unnatural or unreasonable. At a time when fundamental questions are under hot discussion between contending races and Provinces, who will listen to minor matters? When life itself is in the balance, who cares about local ailments? When the Constitution itself is challenged, details, unless of a pressing kind, must be shelved. When the Empire is threatened with disruption at Home, who can have the heart to care for Dependencies? The sufferings of the latter unfortunates are nonetheless acute from their knowledge of the ruling country's predicament, or their consciousness that there is no criminal neglect. On the contrary, misery becomes all the more intolerable where you are condemned to suffer in silence, without having

anybody to blame. It is a great resource in extremity to be able to scold and rave and call Heaven to witness our wrongs against their author, even though he or she have a Mrs. Harris sort of mythical existence. India, as an appendage of the British Empire, has not even this satisfaction, such as it is, to cheer her up under the cold shade of Imperial neglect.

Formerly, against innumerable drawbacks, there used to be some few occasional compensations. The system of party was not, in its practical working, wholly unfavorable to diverse interests which would else have little chance of a hearing. The very jealousies of parties led to the ventilation of out-of-the-way topics. A fellow-feeling makes us wondrous kind. We can never forget how in the past, the weakness and misfortunes of the Tories seemed to render them more capable of sympathy with the neglected interests and obscurer affairs of India and the Colonies. Their opponents doubtless explained it in another way. Driven from office, with scant hopes of a fair return to power and to equanimity, under the advance of democracy, the Tories, according to them, delighted to tease and embarrass the Whig or Liberal Government by making mountains of molehills, and encouraging all sorts of out-of-the-way grievances. Howsoever it was, the advantage to the weak and neglected was all the same. The unrepresented portions of the Empire thus found an artificial representation. Since then the genius of DISRAELI—the despised Jew leader of the territorial and traditionist party in Church and State—managed to give the fortunes of the Conservatives an unexpected good turn and revived the drooping spirits of his followers with more than one substantial lease of power. It was when their prospects were at their lowest, however, that the Conservatives served India. Individual philanthropists there were on all sides of the House, like the great Radical JOSEPH HUME, or the greater chiefs of Manchester Radicalism, COBDEN and BRIGHT, to advocate her cause. But it was the Conservatives that, as a party, clung to her. At that time they were, though weak, still one of the two great ruling parties, while the Radicals were a struggling handful, without organization or influence.

Since then, the Conservatives recovered prestige and the Radicals have grown so far as to swamp the old Whig family monopolists and indeed to form the great Liberal Party—the most powerful of the day.

Just now, however, all is—not changed, to be sure, but in abeyance. This Irish business has turned everything topsy turvy—thrown everything out of order. The Constitution is passing through a fiery ordeal, and the prime element of party has suffered accordingly. The Liberals are divided—openly and seriously divided; the Conservatives, despised and patronised, are miserable in the extreme. Everything is neglected—everybody is in painful suspense—while the future of the state—to say nothing of persons or parties—is gloomy and uncertain. Who, under the circumstances, can think of aught else but the immediate situation? No other question is allowed. Anything besides is obviously an impertinence.

Under these circumstances, we should not be slow to recognise those individual Britons who, whether in Parliament or out of it, are keeping up the India Question, in one form or another. It requires courage to inflict India on Ireland-absorbed Britain, if it do not, in every instance, evidence singleness of purpose. We owe much to these bores. No matter what the question may be—the point is to preserve the continuity. It is enough for the present that

India is not allowed to be forgotten. It was fortunate that several retired Indians were elected. Man proposes and God disposes—for the best. After all, we have scarcely lost by the defeat of the candidates put forward by the Indian Associations. Even DADABHAI NAOROJI and LAL MOHUN GHOSE could not have obtained a particular and patient hearing in the House. Their suppression would have highly disappointed their countrymen, and with the loss of prestige in India they must have lost in influence in England. It is as well, therefore, that they were not elected and, of course, had no opportunity of being lost in the angry personalities of the Irish debates. What, on the contrary, had the Indian opposition to the present Anglo-Indian members, succeeded! We would have lost the only possibility of an Indian voice in the Commons. These gentlemen have done well enough. The fears of their terrible baleful influence in Parliament have happily not been realised. On the contrary, they have utilised whatever opportunity came in their way for representing this country. Sir ROPER LETIMBRIDGE, in particular, has been useful. He has proved that an anti-Ilbertite is not necessarily a foe to India or her people. Up to this, at any rate, he has not abused in the House his Indian knowledge or influence. He has lent himself to advocacy of Indian sufferers. As a former member of the Education Service, he has naturally taken the Department of Instruction under his special care. It is greatly to his credit that he brought to the notice of the India Office one of the grievances of the native schoolmasters.

#### THE INDIA OFFICE AGAINST INDIA.

##### HONOURS TO THE NATIVE ARMY.

THE inefficiency of the India Office with the present constitution of the Secretary of State's Council, is becoming more pronounced year by year. That it falls far short of the requirements of the country and the Empire, must be apparent to the meanest comprehension.

What, in fact, can India expect from a Council composed, in a great measure, of septagenarians who have not been (that is, most of them) in the country within the last 20 or 25 years? For this inefficient Council of dummies, India has to pay, inclusive of clerks, &c., about 4 lacs of Rupees a year at the lowest computation. In this Council, neither the Natives of India nor the unofficial Anglo-Indians and Eurasians are represented. The members of this Council are chiefly antiquated Covenanted Civilians and Military men who, during their supposed Army service, have been chiefly in Civil employ. To point out that this Secretary of State's Council is nothing more or less than a dead weight, not only on the finances but on the advancement of the true interests of the Empire, we have only to point out the numerous instances of egregious blundering that has taken place through their advice and interference during the ceremonies of Her Majesty's Jubilee. Of course, we cannot expect Lord CROSS to know very much about the country. But his having to consult men for precedent and advice who have not been in that country for 20 and 25 years, is absurd in the extreme. These men cannot possibly fathom the extent and strength of the national feeling that has sprung up in India within the last eight or ten years. To shew what we look upon as nothing more or less than an insult to the Natives of the Indian Army, we quote the following from the English papers.

On Monday the 11th July, Her Majesty sent for the 15 Native Officers who were sent home to take a part in the Jubilee and who were about to leave London for India, *i. e.*, on the 15th of July. They were sent for by Her Majesty to have a farewell interview. This reception, as all who know the amiability and kindness of Her Majesty's disposition, was a most gracious one.\* In taking leave of these men, the representatives of India's Native Army, Her Majesty desired that a message should be sent to her from every part at which they stopped to inform her how they were progressing, as she expressed herself most anxious to know all about their welfare. Her Majesty was desirous, in fact she would have been much pleased, to bestow on these representative Native Officers some special mark of her favour. But the India Office was opposed to such a pronounced act. Now, why this prejudice and antagonism against the interests of India's sons in the Department whose duty it is to protect them? We can see no valid reason why the India Office should deprecate the giving of these special marks of Her Majesty's favor (knighthood) to good honest soldiers, merely because they are natives. Be it remembered that these very men have spent their lives in harness and their blood in fifty fields to uphold the honor, fame, and power of a race totally alien to themselves. These very same advisers of the India Office will lavishly recommend the bestowal of Orders of Knighthood on men like GUNPUT RAO who will make over to them treasures they are bound to protect, and to other Maharajas, Rajas and even their servants and "Baboos" whom they think fit to flatter for political purposes, while to their good Native Officers, even when their Empress, in the goodness and nobleness of her heart, desires to reward them with these coveted honors, the India Office wags the top of its thumb.

We trust that Her Majesty will yet cast aside the trammels of these antiquated obstructionists and give to deserving men the honors due to gallant soldiers and able Native Officers.

Of all the blunderings the India Office has been guilty towards the Indian visitors to England, this refusal to allow the Queen to carry out her wishes and give to them honors for their well-merited services, we look upon as the very worst. Whatever else may have been done, was in all probability done through ignorance or misunderstanding, but this we look on as nothing more or less than a downright insult to the whole Native Army of the Indian Empire. The India Office, forsooth, does not deem the highest and most distinguished Native Officers of the Indian Army to be fit recipients of the honor of Knighthood. And this against the Empress herself!

Since writing the above, I perceive that the Queen (I surmise without consulting the India Office) has telegraphed to Gibraltar and granted to some of these Native Officers C. I. E.'s and to others the 1st Class Order of British India. But what a greater effect it would have had and how much better it would have been, if the India Office with its absurd prejudice had not interviewed, and interfered with, the Queen and prevented her from giving with her own hand the accolade to all these or some, of these representative Native Officers of the Indian Army.

ANDREW HEARSEY.

#### A SCRIPTURAL PARALLEL.

We have for some time received a veritable "Ruin seize thee, ruthless King!" We know the inveterate dislike of modern Europeans

to stern reminders of the great ruler of the Universe and his judgments coupled, strangely enough, with a nervous dread of imprecations. Accordingly we have hitherto hesitated to publish the following. After long deliberation, however, we decide to print it. It ought to do good to many besides those immediately concerned. After all, Christians are accustomed to hear such language very week at church:

The great singer, the king of the Jews, wrote: "The fool hath said in his heart there is no God." There are comparatively few, I am glad to say, who deny the existence of a Supreme Being. Repeated manifestations not only Biblical but even every day occurrences go far to prove that He not only exists but takes cognizance of what does go on in this world. We well know that He in his own time does avenge the cry of the poor and needy and bring down judgment and punishment on the oppressor, so it were well even for the rulers of this Empire to take heed before they continue and insist on acts of downright injustice and close their ears to the cry of the oppressed.

I would beg to draw the attention of these men to the fact that the first two men who were the instruments and cause of the oppression practised on the Arni Gad Zemindars, are dead, I mean Mr. G. J. Laidman, the unjust Judge, and Narain Dass, the Mohunt of Dera, the avaricious and grasping priest. The next on the list of oppressors is Sir Alfred Lyall, Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces, but if we are not misinformed His Honor is too learned to believe in such frivolous superstitions and will in all probability like Pharaoh, the proud king of Egypt, refuse to do judgment and justice till the vengeance of the Almighty overtakes him.

All who have read the English Bible cannot fail to notice how closely the Arni Gad Zemindars' case resembles the seizure of Naboth's vineyard by the wicked king Ahab, only with this difference, that Ahab acted in a more honest and upright manner than the Government of India. For he did offer money or land equal to the aforesaid vineyard ere he took it by force. VINE Chapter XXI of the 1st Book of Kings down to verse 16.

Let the Lieutenant-Governor ponder well the fate of Ahab and the judgment on his conduct written by the Prophet. There was none like Ahab to work wickedness in the sight of the Lord, and the sacred record clearly shews that the curse of the wicked oppressor of the poor does not lie merely on the guilty one himself but descends to his children's children. "I will bring evil upon thee (Ahab) and will take away thy posterity." The hour for the close of his rule in the North-West is fast approaching. Let him even at this eleventh hour do justice to the oppressed. What has he gained by it and by his obstinacy in continuing his wrong-doing? Nothing, but the execration of those over whom he has ruled! He was in great hopes of obtaining the seat in the India Council which became vacant by the death of Sir Ashley Eden, but he has been woefully disappointed. Let him yet learn this great lesson, that there is one in Heaven greater than himself, one who judges the actions of all and whose ears are ever open to the cry of the poor and suffering.

Lord Dufferin would likewise do well to ponder over what we have written. The warning is to him as well as to Sir Alfred Lyall, as he likewise, as the representative of our Empress, has been appealed to, to do justice and has refused to do so. We can fully appreciate and exclaim with the man who wrote,

"Is there a God ye sometimes tell us?

Is there a Judge who reigns on high?

Has he bid you buy and sell us?"

Let them both ponder over the deaths of Mr. Laidman and the Mohunt and yield not to man but to the hand of God.

FIAT JUSTITIA RUAT CÆLUM.

It would be presumptuous to dogmatise on the ways of Heaven. No doubt, our correspondent has made out a case for serious consideration. At any rate, he points to a singular coincidence of circumstances.



## THE INDIAN PAMPHLET IN AMERICA.

I am sorry to find that your well-meant passage in regard to my unhappy and prayed-to-be-forgotten article in the *North American Review*, as well as single words and sentences taken out of the text of my "explanation," are being made the subject of unfavourable comment in certain quarters. Thus, the *Advocate of India*, a fair enough Anglo-Indian paper, speaks of the American Editor "insisting on me to write sedition against the Indian Government and my own convictions." For the benefit of those who insist upon persecuting me on the strength of a single passage taken out of its text, or of single words in a conversation reported from memory, let me write the following short paragraph, between quotation marks, to be used as the only authorised version in a short compass. I trust those who demand fairness from others will not lose sight of it themselves.

"The American Editor did not want me to write against my convictions, nor did he want me to deny truths favourable to English Rule in India. All that he did was to suggest the style I should follow if I wanted to accomplish my purpose, namely, that of drawing, or rather forcing, the attention of the English-speaking public to the subject. For this purpose he advised me to write as I felt, not as I thought; to mention the good English Rule had done in India, but to lay special emphasis upon what I believed and represented as its resultant, namely, injustice, high-handedness, and recognition of inequalities of race. I did so, but I did it with my eyes open, and under no sort of compulsion. I did it in the discharge of what I believed to be a sacred duty; and during the time that it took me to write I was in the peculiar position of a man who had to concentrate in himself the accumulated sufferings and sorrows of 250,000,000 of his kith and kin. I tried as if to make all India cry out in one wail of agony, for India could make herself heard in no other way."

If I committed sedition, let me be hanged and quartered, but for the sake of all that is noble and holy let no uncharitable reflection be cast upon one of the truest of men, the American Editor.

As you have very correctly styled it, the article was a "party pamphlet." Whoever regarded it in any other light misspent his criticism. I did not want to solve the Indian question with pen and ink, but I wanted to force the attention of those whose duty it was to do so. I did not regard it as a permanent contribution to the literature of the subject it treated, and I have repeatedly declined the advice of friends and the offers of publishers to have it reprinted and circulated. Much as I was ready to brave in order to draw attention to it when it appeared, nobody is more anxious than myself that it should be entirely forgotten now and for ever. Indeed, I have not a single copy of the article with me, and I have to refer intending readers to the files of the *Indian Mirror* and other papers which reprinted it at the time. And, when under the necessity of advertising my newly started paper *Hope* I was compelled to refer to it as unhappily the only thing I happened to be known by, I refrained from mentioning the name of the Magazine in which it appeared.

I must say, however, that those who profess so much horror over the "exaggerations" of the article, are either dishonest or ignorant of the ins and outs of political journalism. In these days of anarchy, when party passions run high, and unity of thought is the one thing lacking, there is not a representative production but is bound to be one-sided and exaggerated. Show me the issue of the *Times* or of any other representative paper that does not contain its one-sided criticism or its party attack. Why should that be considered a crime in a Bengali Baboo or in an American Editor which is regarded as a necessity by the leading publicists of the world? Party pamphleteering is by no means a new institution, nor is it without a legitimate object of its own. Yours respectfully,

To the Editor.

AMRITA LAL ROY.

## MOORSHEDABAD.

Moorshedabad, August 8.

His Highness Ihtisham-ul-Moolk Rais-ud-Dowla, Amir-ul-Omara Nawab Sir Syud Hasan Ali Mirza Khan Bahadur Mohabut Jung, K.C.I.E., presided at the 29th distribution of prizes to the successful students of the Nawab of Moorshedabad's High School, on Saturday, the 6th instant, at 10 A. M., the time previously fixed by His Highness.

Invitation letters over 150 in number, were issued, by the officiating Headmaster, to the nobility and gentry of the station, and seats, in order of precedence, were arranged in the spacious Hall and Court of the Institution, which was tastefully decorated with triumphal arches, evergreens and bunches of flowers; and red flags, bearing the emblems of the Royal house of England and of the Nawab Bahadur of Moorshedabad, were stuck up, at the gate and on the railings of the High School. The long niches, overhead, were fancifully ornamented with the names of the English, Persian, Sanskrit and Bengali poets and literary worthies, such as John Milton, Hafiz, Sadi, Kalidas, &c., in gold letters, set in blue black ground. The whole thing presented a scenery at once beautiful and charming.

His Highness the Nawab Bahadur and party with his 2nd brother Prince Wala Quder Bahadur and the other members of his family including Nawab Shuja-ul-Moolk, Syud Mahamed Zainol-abidin Khan Bahadur Feroze Jung, arrived at the gate of the School in state carriages, with troopers following and preceding, and were received by the Headmaster and conducted to the Hall, where all present rose up till his Highness and party had taken their seats. Before the commencement of the ceremony of distribution, Baboo Jugeshwar Sirkar, after an opening speech, read portions of the annual Report of the School for the year 1885-86, a dumb silence prevailed among the large gathering of boys, numbering in all 400. The discipline maintained, throughout, was exemplary, as was noticed by the audience.

His Highness next distributed the prizes. There were 3 Silver medals, awarded to the most brilliant students of the School for general proficiency, by H. H. the Nawab Bahadur and a member of his family. At the termination of the ceremony, the officiating Headmaster, after thanking H. H. the Nawab Bahadur in particular, in befitting terms, the Raises, and the gentlemen in general, for the trouble they took in coming, proposed cheers for Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen Empress of India, for the Viceroy, for the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and for the Nawab Bahadur of Moorshedabad, the Patron, of the High School, which were most enthusiastically responded to by the boys and teachers amidst loud acclamation. After this the meeting dissolved and His Highness and party, granting 3 days' holiday to the School, drove to the Palace.

It is significant that His Highness the Nawab Bahadur of Moorshedabad did not preside at the distribution of prizes at the Medrasa in April last.

On the occasion of the Jubilee celebration of Her most gracious Majesty here, on the 16th February last, His Highness the Nawab Bahadur gave away a large sum of money for the treat of 359 boys and staff of the High School, both the students and teachers were sumptuously regaled on the joyous occasion.

## MONGHYR.

Jamalpore, 16th.

On Thursday, the 11th instant, His Honor Sir Stuart Bayley, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, at the invitation of the East Indian Railway Company, came and opened the water works at Jamalpore. A gigantic reservoir has been constructed at the foot of the hills which catches all the water that comes down the hills and is augmented by the rain water, until the accumulation amounts to some thing like 150,000,000 gallons of water. It is intended to convey this water to the house of the European residents of the Station for their household purposes, as hitherto there has been a great scarcity in the water supply in the station owing to nearly all the wells getting dry in the hot weather. The main pipes have already been laid down and the valvular hydrants put up at the mouth of the reservoir. So that the water works are practically completed and it was to declare them open that the Lieutenant-Governor was invited by the Railway Company.

A canopy had been erected over the hydrants at the mouth of the reservoir and a large brass wheel fixed to the topmost hydrant by turning which the main valves would be opened to let in the water from the reservoir into the main pipes. To this brass wheel a small silver wheel handsomely engraved was fixed and this wheel was to be turned by His Honor. A pair of barouches each drawn by a pair of handsome walers had been hired by the Railway Company from Calcutta for the use of the Lieutenant-Governor and suite. At about 5-30 P. M., on the 11th instant, Sir Stuart and Lady Bayley, accompanied by his Aid-de-camp and the Government officials from Monghyr, arrived by train and were received at Jamalpore by Mr. Carter, Traffic Manager, and the leading Railway officials of the station. An address from the municipality was then read out on the station platform by Mr. Curtis, Chairman of the municipality. His Honor briefly returned thanks. After some of the officials had been presented to His Honor, the whole party drove off to the reservoir where a goodly number of ladies and gentlemen had already gathered to witness the opening ceremony. On arrival under the canopy, an address to the Lieutenant-Governor was read out by Mr. Huddleston of the Traffic Department giving the history and objects of the water works and the capacity of the reservoir and concluding with a request from the Railway Company to His Honour to open the works and to allow the reservoir to be named, after him, the Bayley reservoir.

The Lieutenant-Governor in an appropriate reply thanked the Company and praised Messrs. Pout and Devon who were chiefly instrumental in the construction of the works. He anticipated great benefits from the introduction into a town of pure clean water, and congratulated the residents on the convenience in having the water conveyed to their very doors.

At the conclusion of his speech the Lieutenant-Governor turned on the silver wheel and declared the water works open. Three loud and hearty cheers were then given for His Honor by those

assembled and one more for Lady Bayley. They guests headed by the Lieutenant-Governor went under a monster shamiana handsomely decorated with flags and green leaves, and partook of some refreshments, the local band of the E. I. Railway Volunteers playing.

At about 7-30 P. M., His Honor and party drove to the Railway station and returned to Monghyr where the *Rhotas* was awaiting him.

### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

**GENERAL.**—The 6th August 1887.—Baboo Doorga Churn Ghose, Sub-Deputy Collector, Chittagong, is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector under Regulation IX of 1833.

The 10th August 1887.—Moulvie Syed Wajid Hossein, Special Butwara Deputy Collector, Mozufferpore, is transferred to Patna.

Moulvie Majibar Rahman, Special Butwara Deputy Collector, Patna, is transferred to Mozufferpore.

The 11th August 1887.—Baboo Bangsidhar Rai, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Moorshedabad, is allowed leave for two months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 10th instant.

Baboo Dwarka Nath Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Moorshedabad, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Bangshidar Rai, or until further orders.

In notification of the order of the 1st ultimo, Baboo Rakhal Das Haldar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is allowed furlough from the 8th July last to the 20th December next, inclusive, under section 132, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code.

Baboo Nilkant Sarkar, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Pubna, is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector.

The 13th August 1887.—Mr. G. E. Manisty, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Shahabad, acted in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors from the forenoon of the 7th to the afternoon of the 26th April 1887, and from the forenoon of the 27th June to the afternoon of the 5th July 1887.

Mr. W. M. Clay, Magistrate and Collector, Khoolna, is allowed furlough for one year, under section 50, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 28th October 1887, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Umesh Chunder Sen, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of Moorshedabad.

Baboo Abinash Chunder Sen, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Moorshedabad, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of Dacca.

Mr. J. L. Herald, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Baraset, 24-Pergunnahs, is transferred to Nuddea, and is appointed to have charge of the Meherpore sub-division of that district.

Baboo Tariny Kumar Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Baraset sub-division of that district.

Mr. G. Toynbee, Magistrate and Collector, Hooghly, is allowed leave for two months and one day, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 3rd September next.

Mr. C. P. Gaspersz, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhagulpore, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Hooghly, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. G. Toynbee, or until further orders.

The 16th August 1887.—Mr. E. W. Collin, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mozufferpore is appointed to act as Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Howrah, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. E. V. Westmacott, or until further orders.

Mr. H. Luson, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Meherpore, Nuddea, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of Mozufferpore.

Mr. W. H. M. Gun, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Noakholly, is allowed leave for two months and twenty-nine days, under the note to rule 2, section 73 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from 4th proximo.

Mr. G. W. Place, Officiating Judicial Commissioner, Chota Nagpur, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Noakholly, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. W. H. M. Gun, or until further orders.

Mr. W. O'Reilly, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, is allowed leave for two months and twenty-one days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved by Baboo Shama Churn Mitter.

Baboo Hurri Narain Banerjee, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Jehanabad, Hooghly, is appointed to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, but will continue to be employed, until further orders, as a Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector of the third grade.

This cancels the order of the 5th July 1887, appointing Baboo Soshi Mohun Talookdar to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade.

Mr. H. J. McIntosh, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Burdwan, is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector.

Baboo Gopi Mohan Ghose, Khas Tehsildar, Satkania, Chittagong, is allowed leave for one month and thirteen days, under section 72

of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Sree Nath Bhudder, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chittagong, was on leave for fifteen days from the 9th to the 23rd April 1887 inclusive, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code.

**JUDICIAL.**—The 11th August 1887.—Baboo Sarat Chunder Bose, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Contai, Midnapore, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

The 12th August 1887.—Under section 3, Act III of 1880, Mr. A. Rattray, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Darjeeling, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class within the limits of the Cantonment of Jellapahar, in the district of Darjeeling.

Under the authority vested in him by the final clause of section 357 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882, the Lieutenant-Governor empowers Moulvie Abdurrauf, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhagulpore, to take down evidence in criminal cases in the English language.

The 13th August 1887.—Baboo Kanai Lal Mookerjee, Subordinate Judge of Dinagpore, is allowed leave for six months, under section 128, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Baboo Karuna Das Bose, Munsif of Scaldah, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge of Dinagpore, and is vested with the powers of a Munsif as well as with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a court up to the value of Rs. 100, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Kanai Lal Mookerjee, or until further orders.

Baboo Jadoo Nath Goswami, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, to be ordinarily stationed at Scaldah during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Karuna Das Bose, or until further orders.

The 15th August 1887.—Baboo Menu Lal Chatterjee, Second Subordinate Judge of Sarun, is vested temporarily with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a Court up to the value of Rs. 500 within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Sudder munsif of Sarun, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Anrita Lal Chatterjee, First Subordinate Judge of that district, or until further orders.

Baboo Pores Nath Banerjee, Judge of the Courts of Small Causes at Kooshtea, Chooadanga, and Meherpore, is allowed leave for one month, under rule 1, section 73 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Baboo Saroda Prosad Chatterjee, Third Subordinate Judge of Hooghly, is appointed temporarily to be Judge of the Courts of Small Causes at Kooshtea, Chooadanga, and Meherpore, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Pores Nath Banerjee, or until further orders.

Baboo Kedar Nath Chatterjee, Munsif of Oolooberia, Hooghly, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge of Hooghly, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Saroda Prosad Chatterjee, or until further orders.

Baboo Hem Chunder Mookerjee, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Hooghly, to be ordinarily stationed at Oolooberia, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Kedar Nath Chatterjee, or until further orders.

The 16th August 1887.—Mr. H. H. Heard, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, is vested with the powers of a magistrate of the first class.

Mr. C. W. E. Pittar, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cuttack, is appointed, under the provisions of section 22, Act X of 1882, to act as a Justice of the Peace within the territories under the Lieutenant-Governor's control.

Mr. H. J. McIntosh, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Burdwan, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class.

**GRANT OF LEAVE TO MUNSIF.**—The 13th August 1887.—Baboo Suresh Chunder Ghose, Munsif of Sasseram, in the district of Shahabad, is allowed leave for one month, under sections 128 and 141, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the orders of the 18th April last, the 12th July 1887, and the 2nd instant.

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# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1887.

No. 288

## The Week.

SIMLA has been visited with eight days' continuous and heavy rain.

THE Oudh and Rohilkund Railway will be a State Railway from July next.

THE Goa Government have sanctioned Rs. 75,000 for a palace in Pangim for the Patriarch Arch-bishop of Goa.

TWELVE Russian soldiers are said to have been killed at Chaharjui by the tribe for dishonoring some Turkoman women.

SIR CHARLES TURNER is expected at Simla next week from Madras. The Public Service Commission re-assemble at Allahabad in November.

SIR DINSHAW MANOCKJEE PETIT has paid down Rs. 31,000 in two instalments of Rs. 12,000 and Rs. 19,000, towards the building fund of the Bombay Stock Exchange.

THE three and half crores of Rupees of the Gwalior vaults lent to our Government, will be repaid by annual instalments after the Maharaja attains majority.

IT is reported that Sir FREDERICK ROBERTS declined a peerage as he has not the wherewithal to maintain the rank. How few people show that consideration!

THE Madras and Pondicherry Governments have agreed between themselves, that, as in the case of police officers, British revenue officers entering English territory are not to be called upon to pay any toll when passing the respective toll-gates.

LATEST news of the great White African :—

"A telegram of August 4 from St. Thomas says :—'Letters have been received at Stanley Pool from Mr. H. M. Stanley, stating that he arrived at the Falls of the Aruwihini river on the 18th of June, and was preparing to begin the overland march. All was going well with the expedition.'"

IN a letter to the *Times*, Professor MAX MULLER recommends an asylum for Hindu child-widows, as a means of reducing the suffering caused by the present restrictions on remarriage. Are there not such homes already—private establishments where widows are supposed to sink their sorrows? The suggestion seems to show that the great Professor is a chip of the great European block. Or, is he aging? Such aberrations force on the mind the famous line in the English satirist describing the last days of SWIFT.

IT is curious to see the sort of tittle tattle and reflections that form the staple of the outstation letters and other correspondence in the native press. One writer begins with the statement "Death is the inevitable lot of all men" before saying "It is a matter of deep regret and sorrow to announce that Baboo....., 4th Master" of the Ticari school is dead.

The same writer then gives a more cheering piece of information, namely, that

"Baboo Bhagwat Sahay, B.A., inhabitant of Sikaria, a village three miles off Tikari, has been appointed Head Master of this institution on a salary of Rs. 120 a month. This is the 2nd time that a Bihari gentleman has been lucky enough to be placed at the head of the school. It is expected that the school will experience a great deal of progress during his incumbency."

This is counting the chickens before they are hatched. Whether SAHAY'S luck means luck to the school, the future only can show. To us, it seems sufficiently problematical. We hope the fact of the Lala's being a Tikarite has had no overwhelming effect in determining the choice. We rejoice that Behar is now producing graduates in all the faculties and that their claim to service is recognised. But in her own interest she should not forget the value of experts from other parts of the empire and other lands. The education department is specially a sphere in which there is the greatest need of exercising a spirit of wise reform and eschewing false sentiment. We, for one, are not for handing over the entire teaching of English, for instance, to Indians. It is difficult to unlearn early impressions, and we are daily confronted by proofs of the influence of imperfectly trained teachers. The survival of native barbarism of thought and speech may any time reveal itself to the confusion of the best of us, or at least to the derision of English gentlemen. This barbarism will be found to have its source in either of two causes. If not originally implanted by ignorant teaching, it was not dispelled by competent teaching.

Another correspondent, of a superior calibre, from Bankipore, begins in a lustier strain :—

"Sir,—I am glad to inform you that the few comments, contained in my last upon the God Indra's inactivity have stirred him up—He is no longer hard upon us but gives us heavy down pours."

He complains of the weather spoiling the *Sombari mela* :—

"The fourth and last *Sombari mela* came off last Monday. If excess of heat prevented us from enjoying the 3rd, excess of rain prevented us from enjoying the 4th."

The booths along the whole length of the Katcherry compound suffered from the water, but the worst sufferers were the correspondent in going up to the Munder, through the mire, and his poor shoes. Who can help sympathising with such innocent victims!

The Advocate-General had recently been to Patna in a case at the Commissioner's. His visit was an "advent." The court was crowded to suffocation to witness the great light of the law.

At the Patna sessions, the "sensation" was the trial of a post office clerk. The jury unanimously pronounced Not guilty. An exhibit which was of the utmost importance in the case, was missed from the record, and the Sessions Mohuror has been suspended pending the submission of his explanation.

The writer mentions a BEAMES in miniature in the Peshcar of the 1st Sub-Judge who has been degraded for borrowing.

THEY are revising the school books in Paris—with a view to expunge all names of and allusions to God. There was a revision for such purpose only 3 years ago. The present revision is for the new books added owing to change in the course of studies.

THE recent Volunteer Resolution of the Madras Government is no concession, but is only a rectification of a mistake. It does not advance the native cause any step. It is explained thus :—

"Under the existing regulations, which are applicable to all India, except Burmah, natives are permitted to join any Volunteer Corps

willing to receive them into their ranks, provided they form a part of the general body of Volunteers of such corps and do not constitute separate companies. This regulation has been in force since the Viceroyalty of Lord Canning, and originally extended to Burmah, as well as India proper. A few years ago, however, Burmah, for local reasons, was excluded from its operations, and natives of that country were prohibited from recruiting as Volunteers. This step was taken owing to the then prevalence of dacoity in that province, and it was deemed advisable under the circumstances, owing to the excitable temperament of the people, not to trust them with arms further than could be helped. The order regarding this prohibition went through the Madras military authorities, in whose jurisdiction Burmah lay, but by some misunderstanding it was held by the Madras Government to apply also to the Madras Presidency, and was so applied. All, therefore, that has recently happened in connection with the subject of native volunteering in Madras is that the local Government have, on reference to the Government of India, been informed of the mistaken interpretation they had placed on the order above referred to."

HERE is a tragedy of murder and self murder—the end of an improper, stupid and absurd passion—reported from Europe :—

"At a place named Vallette, near Toulon, a grocer, named Anicet, lost his young wife about four months ago. Latterly he became violently enamoured of his widowed mother-in-law, a Madame Frebois, aged 48, in whose house he was living. The widow thought at first that her son-in-law was making game of her, but as he renewed his extraordinary protestations of affection with vehemence, she kept him at a distance. On Tuesday the man went out to a café and returned home after having indulged in deep potations. He went into his mother-in-law's room, and again made proposals of marriage to her. As she refused he took a revolver out of his pocket, and, following her out of the room from which she fled in terror, he fired three times at her. The woman fell dead at the bottom of the stairs of the house, having been hit mortally in the head. The murderer then turned his weapon on himself, and inflicted two wounds in his chest and ribs, a third shot having missed. After that he pulled himself up to an adjacent window, and threw himself out. He was picked up bleeding and inanimate, but not dead, and was conveyed to the hospital, where he lies hovering between life and death."

There may be more in the matter than the above tells. It is not said whether the mother-in-law was a plain dame or a Venus of forty-eight. European manners do not, we fear, prevent women who ought to be grave matrons from giving themselves the airs of romping girls, if they are so inclined. And art enables the old to pass for young in a way and to a degree impossible in less mechanically advanced communities. The decay of religion and the progress of revolutionary ethics among the less refined classes, also leave the unchastened will free to run riot.

WE give prominent insertion to the minutes of a most interesting meeting in honor of the Patriarch of India Reform and the Patron Saint of Indian Princes and Chiefs :—

"A meeting was held at the Westminster Palace Hotel, on Saturday, July 30, 1887, to adopt an address to Major Evans Bell, thanking him for his numerous published works on Indian questions, as well as for his other eminent services to the princes and people of India, and also expressing sympathy with him in his illness. The Hon. Dadabhoi Naoroji occupied the chair, and among the many English and Indian friends of Major Bell present, were—Lord Stanley of Alderley, Mr. Sorabji Jehangir, chief magistrate of Baroda, Mr. W. Martin Wood, Mr. M. Mull, Mr. F. W. Chesson, Mr. Robert Adams, Mr. William Digby, C.I.E., Mr. Nandalal Ghosh (Bengal), Mr. Lakshmi Narayana (Lahore), Mr. Bhagat Ram (North-West Provinces), Captain Catterson Smith, Mr. Robert Adams, Mr. John Fleming, Mr. Framji J. Patel (Bombay), Miss Arundale, Mr. C. D. Collet, Mr. Framroz M. Dadina (Bombay), Mr. C. K. Desai (Bombay), Rev. Alfonso Matthey, Mr. M. R. Alyanga (Madras), Mr. G. W. Bel, Mr. B.B. Dutt (Bengal), Mrs. Chesson, Miss J. R. Cohen, Mr. V. V. Chetty (Madras), Mr. S. Digby, Mr. R. B. Sunawalla (Bombay), Dr. C. Inglis, Mr. J. H. Bonawitz, Mr. Jehangir Pestonji (Bombay), Miss Tina Bell, Mr. D. H. Ridley, Mr. E. J. Davies, Miss Gostling, and others.

The chairman, in opening the proceedings, said they were met to adopt an address to Major Evans Bell, thanking him for his numerous published works on Indian questions as well as for his many eminent services to the princes and people of India, and expressing sympathy with him in his illness. Several letters had been received from friends which Mr. Chesson would read.

The chairman said before he called upon Mr. Martin Wood to read the address he hoped they would allow him to make a few remarks. (Hear, hear.) He was very glad to have that opportunity of taking part in honouring Major Evans Bell. (Cheers.) Of his official career he did not know much, but he knew this much, that through his staunch love of justice, Major Bell had got himself into trouble with his superiors several times. (Cheers.) With regard to his public career and usefulness it extended as far back as 1852, and during that time he had been a strenuous worker on behalf of the princes and people of India. (Hear, hear.) Major Bell's first efforts were made against the policy of annexation on behalf of justice for the princes of India. He would only instance one or two cases in which the services of Major Bell were of the most valuable character, and he might say that no one man had contributed more to the restoration of Mysore than had Major Evans Bell. (Cheers.) Then there was the case of Maharaja Holkar, who was very mortified on account of the suspicions thrown upon his loyalty—a fact which embittered his life. He had

an opportunity of knowing that case thoroughly as far back as 1872, and therefore he could thoroughly appreciate the value of the services rendered by Major Evans Bell to the late Maharaja Holkar. Major Bell cleared the Maharaja completely from the cloud of suspicion and he had no doubt that if the Maharaja were living he would have been equally glad to have testified his gratitude and his obligations to Major Evans Bell. (Cheers.) He would not go more into detail; but it was not only on behalf of the princes of India that Major Bell had troubled himself. He had also taken a deep and strong interest in the welfare of the people generally. (Cheers.) In that respect he knew the Major from the time of the establishment of the East Indian Association, as far back as 1866. From then up to the present day Major Bell had taken an earnest interest in his work. (Cheers.) He took an active part in the British Indian reform association, which was formed in the troublous times of the Ilbert Bill. In many and various ways Major Bell by his disinterestedness had obliged the native community immensely, and he (the chairman) was glad that their friends of the London Indian Society, a few days ago, passed the following resolutions.—"The Committee have heard with regret of Major Evans Bell's illness and desire to record their high appreciation of his earnest sympathy with the people and princes of India and his long and strenuous exertions for their behalf." "Having learnt from the President that it is intended by several English and Indian gentlemen to present an address of sympathy and appreciation to Major Evans Bell, the Committee resolves to take part in that movement, and to invite the members of the Society to attend the meeting to be called for the purpose." "That these resolutions signed by the President, be sent to Major Bell by the Secretary." Although the people of India were indebted to Major Bell, he thought the obligations of Englishmen to Major Bell were none the less, because whatever might have been the merits of the soldier or the statesman in acquiring the Indian Empire, the genuine sympathy, disinterested help, and intense love of justice which men like Major Bell had exhibited, had acquired for England the attachment and loyalty of that Indian Empire, and it was by men of Major Bell's stamp only that you have retained and would retain that Indian Empire for a long time to come. (Cheers.) Major Bell had never spared himself in his good work on behalf of the natives of India or on behalf of other races. In all such work his conduct had always been of the most unostentatious kind. (Cheers.) Mr. William Taylor, who had worked with Major Bell, wrote to express his great regret that, owing to illness, he was unable to attend that meeting, and at the same time expressing his sincere admiration for Major Bell's independence and public spirit, especially in the cause of the native princes and people, and hoping that in public expression of regard and gratitude his name might be added. (Cheers.) The thoroughness of Major Bell's work and disinterested love of justice was testified to by no less a man than the Duke of Argyll, who described Major Bell as having, with ample knowledge and abundant research, come to a different conclusion from that of Lord Dalhousie. (Hear, hear.) With these few remarks he would call upon Mr. Martin Wood to read the address. (Cheers.)

Mr. Martin Wood then read the address which it was proposed to send to Major Bell.

Lord Stanley of Alderley moved the adoption of the address, the motion being supported by Mr. Lakshmi Narayana, Mr. William Digby, Mr. Chesson, Mr. M. Mull, and Captain Catterson Smith.

The address was voted with acclamation; and the meeting separated with a vote of thanks to the chair."

WE grieve to learn that Major Bell is ailing, and we hope our countrymen in England will inquire after him with the anxious interest due to the most zealous and efficient friend of Indian rights, and, if necessary, attend on him at the bedside, after the good custom of our country. No man deserved better of the sons of India, or of her rulers either, if they but knew it.

A FRENCHMAN has thus revenged himself on his native country :—

"M. Bareiller, ex-Mayor of Boissise-le-Roi, a country town situated in the Seine-et-Marne, not far from Paris, was sentenced to a year's imprisonment in 1886 for having fired at and wounded a workman who pressed him for payment of a debt of 10s. M. Bareiller, who was naturally of an ungovernable temper, was driven mad with anger by this sentence. During his detention this sense of bitterness grew deeper on account of his impotence to give vent to it, added to the hardships of prison life. His constitution became shattered, and the disappointment of not receiving a pardon on the 14th of July wrought an alarming change in his condition. From that day he could eat no food, and on the 20th instant he died at the Melun hospital, where he had been taken some hours previously. This ill-fated man was a landowner of good means, being worth about 24,000*l.* He was a cultured and gifted scholar, and would have been an instructive conversationalist but for his many oddities and crotchets. Shortly before his trial he had offered as a free gift to the Department of Seine-et-Marne his property at Boissise, on condition that it was made a farming settlement, but as he stipulated that he should manage the estate during his lifetime, his offer was rejected, because it was feared his ungovernable temper might eventually bring trouble on the Department. However, he still clung to his idea, and made a will in 1886, opened after his death, whereby he bequeathed the land to the State for the same object. During his imprisonment he conceived an abhorrence of his country on account of his countrymen, and he declared that he would spare no opportunity of revenging himself for all the infamy cast upon him by the French judges. He drew up two wills at different periods by which he left his property of Boissise to Germany, represented by the Crown Prince, with the object of establishing there a settlement of young Germans."

THERE is fashion in crime as in other things. The newest craze seems to be pouring vitriol about you in crowded thoroughfares by way of revenge on a single wayfarer. We lately related the case of a French woman who had involved in the effects of her vindictiveness innocent men and women. And—

"Another case of vitriol throwing has occurred. Two men cooks of adjoining restaurants were standing on Tuesday together in the main street of Batignolles, enjoying the cool evening air, when vitriol was suddenly thrown upon their faces and hands. The woman who had committed the outrage ran off, but was followed by some spectators, and caught. She proved to be an Alsatian and a cook also. Her excuse was that one of the men had promised her marriage and deceived her. She did not mean, she said, to harm his friend."

Possibly not, but she took no care to avoid harming the man that had done her no wrong.

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Is the Mr. BLUMHANDT, Lecturer in Bengali in London, and connected also with the British Museum, the same as the Rev. Mr. BLUMHANDT who was once a missionary in Bengal—one of that band who assisted us nobly in freeing the peasantry from the toils of a powerful agricultural and manufacturing interest? He appears to have issued a catalogue of the Bengali printed books in the Museum. In his preface, he makes some pertinent remarks on Bengali nomenclology. He says:—

"There is a tendency amongst English-speaking Bengalis to attempt to assimilate their names to the English system of Christian name and surname: as, for example, P. C. Sirkar (Peary Churn Sirkar), S. C. Bose (Shib Chunder Bose), K. M. Banerjea (Krishna Mohun Banerjea). In these cases it will be seen there is no real analogy between the structure of Bengali and English names. In the last mentioned name, for instance, the word Banerjea, or its correct Sanskrit form Vandyopadhyaya is no surname at all, but a caste-title for one of the four classes of Karhi Kulin Brahmans, and as such is common to every member of that class, independent of any actual kinship. Whether it may be convenient or not for English-speaking Bengalis to adopt such caste-titles as surnames, is a question quite distinct from the expediencies of cataloguing. . . . A Bengali's real name, his *nomen proprium*, is that which comes first, and stands before the caste or degree titles, and, in most cases, does not consist of two distinct names as in the case of English Christian names, but of one compound name generally denoting an epithet or attribute of one or other of the Hindu deities, and formed by the rules of Sanskrit samasa. In the illustration noticed above, the initial letters K. M. stand for the 'tat-purusha' compound Krishna-Mohana, i. e. Krishna-pleasing; though in all parts of India the consciousness of this grammatical fact seems to be generally lost."

## Editorial Notes.

THE Sir John Lawrence Enquiry closed on Thursday, after a sitting of 27 days. The most notable incident in the connection of the week is the disclosure of the payment of Rs. 1,000 to Mr. BUSHBY, by Messrs. MACNEILL & Co., in excess of the legal fees payable by them. Mr. BUSHBY is the salaried officer of the Port Commissioners and has no authority to receive any fees or honorariums in excess of his monthly salary of Rs. 1,000, for any work done, half done, over done, or undone on account of any vessel in port. In the state of the vessel as disclosed in the evidence of Mr. NEUSTEIN, the object of the payment is plain. Call it by what euphemism you please, it was hush-money and no mistake. The ingenuity of the great LALY himself could not gloss over the transaction. Nor was there any justification in law or morals for Mr. BUSHBY's conduct, though there might be palliation in the precedents of his profession or office. For anything we care, he is welcome to start a defence, if so minded.

Wrong, as well as unlawful as the transaction is, we still feel a high respect for Mr. MACKENZIE to whose manliness we owe the revelation. He is a brave and honorable British gentleman "for a' that"—"for a' that and a' that." He does not, under threatened danger, sneak under cover of a lie, but braves his fate like a man. Imprudently perhaps, but quite chivalrously, he undertakes the full responsibility of his act. It is such conduct under difficulty, though far from common, that honorably distinguishes the British and is the grand secret of the eminence attained by these once obscure islanders among the nations of the globe. Most men of the world, who do not affect over-purism, will, we believe, judge Mr. MACKENZIE tenderly and sympathise with him in the pass to which the Enquiry has brought him—by his own manlier choice. It ought, further, to be remembered in his favour that he a Scotchman has not cared to do his work cheap. At the worst, he disdains not to withhold the crumb of comfort from the animals that look wistfully in his face. It is easy to condemn even this, but those disposed to harp on the immorality of the thing, would do

better to appreciate the courage and truth which alone give them a jurisdiction.

Mr. KILBY made up the omission of the opening speech by a long address at the close. He spoke well, with almost judicial calmness and weight. The Court have taken a fortnight to consider the mass of contradictory evidence recorded. In closing, Mr. REILY announced his intention, in view of the public interest in the matter, to read in public the Court's report to Government. That was like a public servant.

THE *Tirhoot Courier* has delicate olfactory nerves, and the stinking butter, with which the head of the Government is being plied in Behar, has naturally proved a great trial to our contemporary. Nor is this oleaginous matter in the wrong place at all confined to any particular locality or Province. It is the nuisance of the day and ought to be suppressed. There is no means of stopping it, however, unless the self-respect and delicacy of the object of adulation themselves are roused. But alas! these high and mighty ones seem to relish the lubrication. So long as that is so, it is visionary to hope that the spiritless subject population of a dependent empire will not be found ready for every opportunity to minister to the weakness. Just now, even the more spirited members of the community must submit to go through the process. The thing has acquired the dignity of regular etiquette. Under the circumstances, we are glad to note that the Lieutenant-Governor managed to miss the Tirhoot Landholders' address. When the offer of the loyal infliction came in due course through Magistrate-Collector and Commissioner, it was too late. The Mozufferporees could not perhaps be humoured without deranging the whole programme. So a reply was sent to the effect that, as a deputation of Behar landholders was fixed for Bankipore, there was no more need of a similar demonstration and the Mozufferpore address might be dropped.

THE *Tirhoot Courier* is partial to European politics. They are its strong point. The last issue is full of them. The longer of two leading articles is devoted to showing up Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, and of the three editorial notes, one of which criticises the addresses which the Lieutenant-Governor has just received in Behar, two deal with the news wired from Europe. One of these paragraphs notices the Bulgarian situation and the other sharply exposes the flatteringunction that the Tory writers on the Anglo-Indian press lay to their souls pierced by the late English by-election. The "leader" reviews, with knowledge and force, the career of honest "Joe" and pronounces him the successor in English politics of Mr. JOSEPH COWAN—"A Wasted Force"—such being the significant title of the article. The writer declares that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN has, by his inordinate ambition of superseding Mr. GLADSTONE, by his dubious ways, by his coquetting now with one side and again with another, lost all chance of leadership or of any station of command, and must henceforth content himself with the rôle of an Ishmael. The article is most creditable to the information and ability of the Indian Press. One or two minor inaccuracies of detail only occur to us. It is stated that

"Mr. Chamberlain's first appearance on the political horizon was the publication of an essay of his in the Fortnightly Review, then edited by Mr. John Morley, either in 1872 or 1873, concerning the wants of the Liberal party."

We believe Mr. CHAMBERLAIN made his debut earlier in an article in the same magazine on the Education League. Again:—

"In 1874 he stood for Sheffield against another of the Ishmaelites of modern politics, whose name also appropriately enough was Joseph, Mr. Roebuck."

It is rather strange that a well informed writer should make such a mistake about so wellknown a name in modern English politics as that of JOHN ARTHUR ROEBUCK, whom, besides, we may almost claim as an Indian. The only other remark we would make, is the general one that political vaticinations are hazardous missiles with the mischievous property of the aboriginal Australian's native weapon. The career of our prophet's other Ishmael might have warned him. How after he had lost credit with every considerable section of the British Parliament, ROEBUCK the Radical surprised everybody in the character of the confidant of the Emperor NAPOLEON III! how without resenting the anomaly, the British public hung on his lips! how for the moment he seemed to sway the destinies of his nation! He had almost got the British to recognise the Slave Power set up in the heart of the once, and happily again since, United States! In what calamity such a step would have involved England! At that time not only public



opinion in general but sages like Sir CORNEWALL LEWIS, and enthusiasts like Mr. GLADSTONE, had all made up their minds that the Great North American Republic was broken up and lost beyond redemption. This is somewhat of a digression perhaps, but it shows the slippery nature of British politics, and the unreliability of the grand Old Man whom so many at Home and abroad are following to—wheresoever he may lead. John Bull is a fickle gentleman, and, for that matter, WILLIAM GLADSTONE, however subtle and anti-philistine he may be in other respects, is a chip of the old block.

DACCA is forcing itself into prominence. Only, it does not distinguish between fame and notoriety. There is not a week in which the city is not before the public in the newspaper columns. Hardly the case against the municipality was decided, than the city held a meeting of old women to censure the chief executive of the municipality for re-assessing the holdings. The next sensation was the libel case by the municipal Secretary against the *Dacca Prakash*. Its novelty is in the manner in which an apology was extracted from the editor. The *Prakash* attributed the fixity of Mr. SARKIES in the Secretary's Chair and his influence in the city to, as the editor honestly explains in his letter of apology, "the friendship and familiarity"—of Mrs. SARKIES with the Dacca Europeans—such as is "prevalent in genteel society and becoming respectable people," the Bengali word used being *bhratri-bhav*. There was an application for summons against the paper. Mr. JENKINS, the officiating Joint-Magistrate, properly refused to issue any process unless he was satisfied that the word complained of was defamatory. Baboos KALLY PROSUNNO BHUTTACHARJEE, M. A., Professor of Sanskrit, Dacca College, AUKHOY KUMAR SEN, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Dacca, and SASHI BHUSAN DUTT, M. A., Professor of English, Dacca College, thereupon deposed that the Bengali word *bhratribhav* (brotherly feeling) "the friendship and familiarity" implied something like "improper relation or intimacy!" The chivalry of the Joint of Magistracy was now roused. Warrant was ordered, where a summons had been prayed for. The editor gave himself up to the Magistrate, but was let off on bail of Rs. 100. At this point the case was taken up by the Puritans and Roundheads and other heads of sorts, headed by the native editors. They held a public meeting at the house of Dewan KALLY PROSUNNO GHOSE, editor of the *Bandhab*, speeches were made condemning the editor of the *Dacca Prakash* who read an apology to Mr. SARKIES. Those present at the meeting enclosed that letter in a letter of apology of their own signed by 61 persons to the aggrieved Secretary. These being then published in the *Dacca Prakash*, Mr. SARKIES was satisfied and the case taken off the file. Lucky SARKIES!

ONE of the members of the Bombay Bar was threatened with a suit for commission or brokerage for briefs secured. The scandal was averted by a compromise. For future prevention, the Bar have hit upon the introduction of a Legal Practitioners' Act, and have agreed to apply to Government through the local Judges.

IN the Madras High Court, one GOPALON was charged with house-breaking and theft. There was no evidence for conviction and he was acquitted. But a police officer who had charge of the prisoner in the dock, probably conceiving that the man ought not to go home without something, struck him before he had walked five yards. The contempt was not brought to the notice of the presiding Judge by any of the officers of the peace, of course, or by any of the briefless prowling about the place, and the discharged prisoner was too glad to escape from the awful precincts to linger for complaining of a simple assault and battery. The matter has since been confused, however, and it is now pretended that the Police officer simply lovingly slapped GOPALON in the back, damned him by way of congratulation on his luck, and gave him a violent push as a sort of practical God-speed. Of some such tenour is the explanation given on the inquiry of the head of the Presidency Police.

THE King of Oudh is still sick. The Hakeem who came here from Lucknow, by invitation, to treat His Majesty, commenced his treatment, but the courtiers of the King, in the interest of the young and inexperienced Hakeems in ordinary, intrigued the physician from Oudh out of His Majesty's countenance. The former Hakeems accordingly

resumed their treatment, with the result that His Majesty got worse. A well-wisher of the King, with great difficulty, impressed upon His Majesty the real state of things, and the Lucknow Hakeem was thereupon sent for a second time, and recommenced treatment about four days ago.

ANOTHER story of Nemesis, after the extraordinary romance we received sometime back from the North! this time hailing from the far South and in a business-like shape, with chronologic and nomenologic predicates, and other averments of professed authenticity, for whatever they may be worth, though of course of a less sensational character. In the Pondicherry correspondence dated the 9th August, in the *Malabar & Travancore Spectator* of the 20th, we read:—

"Last month witnessed a most scandalous proceeding in the Court between a betelnut vendor, named Moonisawmy Chetty and Calvé Kichenasawmy Comity, a man of great opulence, a *Cræsus* of Pondicherry, well known in India.

It would appear that the wife of Calvé, who having no issue from the time of her marriage, (for the last ten years) forced her husband to perform a vow that she might beget a son and heir. The vow was that both husband and wife should go to a certain place and respectively go round a banyan tree.

At this place there happened to be a certain man (the betelnut vendor), who during the performance of the vow by the pair whispered into the ears of the wife that there was no use in making any vow, as her husband was a *cosse*; she smiled at this remark and went away. On the following day, they were again met by the same man who this time tried foul means to seduce the wife, and eventually succeeded. This illicit attachment continued for some time when, unfortunately, it came to the knowledge of the husband by means of a letter caught in the hands of a chokra boy. This letter, which was couched in most affectionate terms so enraged the husband that he asked the boy, on promise of a payment of money, to reveal the whole correspondence and the boy did so. The husband then ordered the boy to go to the defendant and tell him that the lady would be waiting for him at the door of her house. The defendant went to the house but, not finding the lady at the door, went upstairs where he was welcomed by the husband and two others with a good cudgelling. Calvé Kichenasawmy Comity referred the matter to the Crown-prosecutor (*procureur de la République*) who laid it before the Court and asked a severe punishment, but the Court not having found any evidence to support the charge, and Moonisawmy Chetty being a very illiterate man, he was only sentenced to pay a fine of 50 Rupees."

The Court dealt with the matter very properly. The prosecutor showed little self-respect in laying bare his domestic sore before a Court. Magistrates should not, if they can help, encourage mean vindictiveness. Our sympathies were with the husband up to his rating of the lusty *Tumboler*, but he ought to have been content with executing with his own hands punishment for his own injury, thanking Heaven for an opportunity which seldom falls to the lot of the injured. But he overdid his part. In pursuing the betelnut-seller, he showed not only a want of magnanimity but an absence of delicacy of feeling. After all, his true quarrel was with his own wedded spouse. The reason suggested for the leniency of the Court, amuses us. If the defendant is illiterate, the complainant does not show himself to be so very learned. CRÆSUSES are not, happily for the world, distinguished for vigor of understanding or, at any rate, for true enlightenment, be they Lydian Kings in the past or Railway or Silver Mountain Kings in the present. But a man in these days, professing to be a gentleman or at all belonging to the respectable classes, who joins his wife in a vow to a local divinity or a trumpery relic and goes through tedious processions and doubtless other mockeries around a tree, as the way to cure the barrenness of his wife or, probably, himself, scarcely deserves a better fate than this Pondicherry Dives. He certainly does not deserve the respect of his wife.

MR. EARDLY NORTON, one of the leaders of the Madras bar, has gone to Hyderabad on a fee of Rs. 30,000 down in a civil suit. The Madras papers remark—"This is the biggest fee we have heard of since the days of JOHN BRUCE NORTON and JOHN DAWSON MAYNE." We father this opinion upon the Madras press generally, advisedly. We quote it from one paper, of course—the *Law Times*, in whose Notes of the Week it occurs. But the Notes and news items of Indian papers, as a rule, are drawn, without acknowledgment, bodily from other sources, and the Madras *Law Times* is no exception. It must have derived from one of the morning papers of the Presidency of Fort St. George, whose statement probably remained unchallenged for some days before it was so adopted in the legal weekly. Thus we take it as the expression of the mind of not only the Presidency gentlemen of the press but also the Southern gentlemen of the long robe. Now, these and other gents equally have an exceedingly short memory to go so far back for instances of great windfalls at the bar. The colossal

fees in the Shivganga and Ramnad litigations were at the time regarded as unprecedented marvels, scarcely to be repeated, but though monstrous enough, they were by no means unique, except in the South. In the North, the phenomenon had doubtless been anticipated in the destruction, through the Supreme Court, of the great Ranaghat PAL CHOWDHURY family and other estates, in the persecution of PRATAP CHAND, the Burdwan Claimant, and other like wasting legal chronic diseases. A Bengal contemporary of the elder NORTON, Mr. LANG, *littérateur* and lawyer, is popularly believed to have got a lac of Rupees or thereabouts from the plaintiff in JOITEEPERSAD'S case against Government. In our own times, Mr. ANSTEY was brought up to defend AMEER KHAN by an equally tempting bait. Sergeant BÉLANTINE received £10,000 with his brief in the Baroda trial. Sir JOHN GORST got not much less for coming on a trumpety legal pretence to Hyderabad. In some recent cases in the same city, colossal fees were given to the lawyers from the neighbouring British territory. Some of our Calcutta leaders have also been there for monster fees, in one instance as much as Rs. 80,000 being paid.

If, however, the remark is limited to Madras, the matter becomes different. Our contemporaries there know their own affairs better than we can pretend to do. All we can say is, that, if Rs. 30,000 be the biggest fee since the days of MAYNE and the elder NORTON, the opportunities of the bar down South are not what they were. In Bengal, specially Bengal Proper, such fees are common enough. Our leading pure Indian lawyers—"Baboos" in fact—frequently go to the country courts and sessions on such and even larger sums.

IN France they are going to erect a statue to MIRABEAU, the greatest French orator, in his native village of Bignon. The statue, which is the work of M. GRANET, is being exhibited at the *Palais de l'Industrie, Champs Elysées*. A Committee of inauguration has been formed headed by LE ROYER, President of the Senate, as Chairman.

PERSONAL immorality has never been an insuperable objection to European politicians. Even in these purer times and in staid prudish England itself, we expect the storm against Sir CHARLES DILKE, for his Parisian laxity and vicious refinements, to blow over. And, no doubt, it would be an act of justice for "society," conscious of its participation in practices in which the accomplished Baronet has had only the ill luck to be caught, to receive to its bosom the Prodigal back—by the back-door, in a quiet way, without attracting particular notice or provoking opposition or comment. In France, specially in the last century, nobody asked what kind of life an orator or statesman led. Perhaps, there was more sympathy for a gambler and a rake, and it was a further recommendation, as betokening a philosophical spirit, if he made faces at the Holy Ghost or avowed doubts respecting the Godhead. Such was MIRABEAU. But his follies and vices were not confined to his private life. There were well-grounded suspicions against his public virtue, suspicions alas! proved since his demise to be too true. Yet, such is the magnetism of genius and the French susceptibility on this head, that, at this day, when not a shred of character hangs by his figure and the literary machinery of his electrifying utterances itself has been laid bare by the revelations of M. DUMONT, the memory of MIRABEAU is actively cherished in France. How much greater was the enthusiasm in the period of revolutionary *furor*!

When the people heard of his illness, they flocked to his gate and enquired from hour to hour how he was doing. In many, this interest rose almost to the pitch of a fanaticism. One MARNAIS offered to transfuse his blood into the body of the sick man. Despite all their cares, the orator expired on the arms of his physician-friend CALEANIS. His last word was *Dormir* (sleep) which was engraved on his tomb in the Pantheon.

The nation honoured its hero with a splendid funeral. At a time when none even dreamed of the railway, when communication was difficult, the *cortège* extended to about a league and contained more than a hundred thousand persons. In profound silence, the deputies, the ministers, the Parisian guard, the administrative body, the deputations from the learned societies and from the clubs, followed the hearse. GÖBEL, the Archbishop "constitutional" of Paris, published a *mandement* in honour of the dead, and in the church of Saint Eustache, where the body was first deposited, GERUTTI pro-

nounced the funeral oration. The whole was concluded with a discharge of 20,000 muskets.

Five several medals were struck in honour of him. Many had their snuff-boxes engraved with his saying—"Je combattrai les factieux de tous les partis." (*I will combat the factions of all parties.*)

THE DEMOSTHENES of France, he was one of the lucky few of the authors of the great Revolution, who escaped the taste of the guillotine. He did not tempt fate by tarrying to enjoy his work.

WE are sorry to learn that Syud MEHDEE NAWAB, nephew of Nawab VILAYET ALI KHAN and son-in-law of Nawab Syud LOOTF ALI KHAN, died of acute dysentery on the night of the 23rd August, at Patna. He was a very intelligent and rising man and about forty years of age, we believe. His loss must be particularly felt by his father-in-law in his old age.

HERE is one of the most decisive proofs of the desperate demoralising *ennui* which is eating out the heart of the most ingenious minds of the West! Here is European civilization revealed in all its purposelessness and unsatisfying hollowness! Has the reader heard of Sisypheus? Here is the modern avatar of that ilk!

"In the Pitti Palace, at Florence, is a table which, for originality in the matter of construction and ghastliness in conception, is, says the *Medical and Press Circular*, probably without a rival. It was made by Giuseppe Sagatti, who passed several years of his life in its manufacture. To the casual observer it gives the impression of a curious mosaic of marbles of different shades and colours, for it looks like polished stone. In reality it is composed of human muscles and viscera. No less than a hundred bodies were requisitioned for the material. The table is round, and about a yard in diameter, with a pedestal and four claw feet, the whole being formed of petrified human remains. The ornaments of the pedestal are made from the intestines, the claws with hearts, livers, and lungs, the natural colour of which is preserved. The tabletop is constructed of muscles artistically arranged, and it is bordered with upwards of a hundred eyes, the effect of which is said to be highly artistic, since they retain all their lustre and seem to follow the observer. Sagatti died about fifty years ago. He obtained these bodies from the hospitals, and indurated them by impregnation with mineral salts."

Was it his own Western Europe that EDWIN ARNOLD had in view when he finished his terrible picture of the moral desolation of the old Roman world with the line

Its heart—its heart was sad?

Was ever existence more miserable than that of the maker of this table? European literary critics call it, with sneaking fondness, a "ghastly work of art." Ghastly it is, in all conscience. But to call it a "work of art," is preposterous. It is no more a work of art than a thing of beauty or a joy for—even a moment. There is no legitimate art in it or "sound" execution or sane purpose. The whole thing, from earliest conception to latest completion, is one long disease. The object of art, *qua* art, is usually understood to be pleasure. It must be an utterly abnormal appetite that could feed on such nastily horrible fare. And to think that any human being should have wasted his days on the production of such a thankless, bootless, infernal curiosity, which can only be a torture to very well-ordered soul! Surely, there must be an abundance of ingenuity in the world pining for want of occupation. As usual, the ever watchful kindness of Satan gives such artists job each to keep them employed.

RAJA MOHIMA RANJAN ROY of Kakina, Rungpore, came down with family to Calcutta on Wednesday with a long train of followers. He has taken up his quarters at the house known as Moonshree Amcer's in Sealdah. He returns to Rampur-Bauleah in time to receive the sunud of his new title from the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor who is timed there on the 8th September.

WE deeply lament to hear of the death of Dr. RAMDAS SEN, of Berhampore. In him the country has lost an exemplary scion of the squirearchy, and Bengali literature one of the most useful and best authors who have enriched it.

WE gather that Government have called for the papers in the Howrah Municipal prosecution for encroachment against the Hooghly Dock.

WE hear negotiations are in progress for the ROTHSCHILDS taking up the Eastern Bengal State Railway, for a fabulous sum we don't care to calculate.

WE read in the *Indian Mirror* of the 21st August :—

"About 3-30 P. M. of the 14th instant, Major Gordon of the Cooch Behar State, while at the Mogulhat Station on his way from Cooch Behar to Darjeeling, was very much irritated to find, on his entering the Station Master's Office, a Native gentleman seated on a stool, not rising from his seat on his entrance. This gentleman is an Executive Engineer of the Public Works Department, who went to Mogulhat on inspection duty. On his entering the room, Major Gordon asked the Babu who he was in a commanding tone; the Babu replied that he was a passenger. Not satisfied with the answer, Major Gordon wanted an explanation from him why he did not rise from his seat to make room for him. The Babu, although greatly offended by this behaviour, politely replied that he was not expected to know who he was, and, being a passenger himself, did not think it was necessary to receive him in the way he wanted it. Major Gordon was very much annoyed at the reply, and threatened the Babu with reporting him, and asked him for his name and occupation. Any one can easily imagine the mental condition into which the Babu was thrown at the time, but he quietly informed Major Gordon who and what he was, and observed that he did not understand what he meant to report him for. Major Gordon then took his seat on the Station Master's chair, and, noting down the name of the Babu, went to the Railway carriage. There being but one first-class carriage in the train, and the Babu having a first-class ticket also, had to enter the same compartment in which Major Gordon was. On his entering the carriage, he was asked by Major Gordon if he was coming in. On being answered in the affirmative, Mr. Gordon ordered his servants to remove his luggage to the adjoining second-class compartment, and, not being able to bear the sight of the Babu, went into the second-class compartment."

This GORDON can scarcely be a GORDON of that ilk or anything like. What a difference in kind between the souls of GORDON the Major and GORDON the General! While the one hates or scorns constructive "Niggers" unless these are owners of orchards of trees of the pagoda fruit, the other devoted himself to the lowly and oppressed throughout the globe, and at last laid his life for the Africans. Nor can the bullier of quiet-loving respectable Baboos, have anything in common with the accomplished and enterprising Miss CUMMING's famous father GORDON the Lion Hunter.

This magnificent nominal Major is so unhappy at being condemned to walk the earth with Blacks, that he does not mind preparing himself for lower class accommodation.

We must confess the Major behaved better to the Babu in the carriage than another European hero who threw out the luggage of another Baboo in a Down Train to Calcutta, out of the compartment and forced him also out to make room for self and family.

It was not enough that the whole of Ireland was proclaimed—the National League has also come—under the ban of the Crimes Act. Mr. GLADSTONE's motion refusing sanction of the House of Commons to the proclamation of the League was rejected last night by a majority of 78 votes. He contended that, though boycotting was to be deprecated, the League had been beneficial to the people. The Irish Secretary, Mr. BALFOUR, pointed out that at the present moment nearly five thousand persons were boycotted, and argued that the League only labors to destroy the landlords without protecting the tenants.

THE Bulgarian mystery continues a mystery. The new Prince FERDINAND has not yet been able to form a ministry.

THE Convention between England and China regarding the annexation of Burma, was ratified in London on the 20th, by His Excellency LIN TA JEN and Lord SALISBURY.

THE following has been going round :—

"A Rio Janeiro journal announced that, on a large hemp farm in Brazil, twenty monkeys have been taught to cut the hemp and prepare it for sale. It is added that the animals are preferred to negroes, because they work much faster, and the cost of feeding them is trifling. It is a pity that Carlyle could not have lived to hear this, as he would have been delighted at such a justification for the aversion and contempt with which he always regarded 'niggers.'"

No Americans are too insignificant for contempt. Americans are Americans, be they go-a-head Yankees or—thundering Patagonians. They are all tall talkers as well as great doers. The above is either a big lie or a great fact. That man has solved part of the problem. He may yet overcome the shyness of the monkeys to speak from a fear of being included under the operations of the Income Tax department.

Talk of CARLYLE's aversion! Whom or what did that poor crazy man like consistently for ten days? Mr. FROUDE's book shows that he frequently disliked himself. As objects of CARLYLE's aversion, the Negroes are in the best company. He thoroughly and all along respected only Dacoits and Dacoitee. The more outrageous, the better, provided it succeeded. He had no patience with misfortune. He

regarded the victims of circumstances as almost criminals. A pretty Prophet for the 19th Century!

THAT the Chinese are civilised, is admitted, though Europeans would rather insinuate the prefix "half." With this reservation, it is acknowledged that they are one of the earliest peoples who emerged from primitive barbarism. But what is not so well felt, is that their civilization is, in many important respects, of the European type. It is inherently more active and, of course, richer in the arts of life, than any other Oriental system. Thus, for one thing, it not only anticipated Europe in the discovery of printing, but in that of the Press too. The *Pekin Gazette* is the earliest of its kind. A form of official gazette was known in this country, but the Chinese have many unofficial newspapers likewise. But what establishes their claim to the highest enlightenment, is that their newspapers have an agony column, which, even in Europe, is a distinction almost solely enjoyed by the *Times*. It is only at the head of the second column of the leading journal that the stiff Briton of either sex feels at home, unbuttons and unbosoms himself or herself. There men and women, in all relations, pour out their souls to one another. In China, there is no such monopoly. Here is a characteristic cutting from a Celestial print :—

"Take care that you are not struck down by lightning. Your mother weeps bitterly for you as she pens these lines in order that they may be read by her son. When you ran away from home on the 30th of the eighth moon, the people of the shop came and asked us what had become of you; it was thus we learnt your flight. I nearly died of fright, and since then my food and sleep have benefited me but little. I am still crying and moaning. I have received your letter which has come from beyond the horizon, but it does not tell me where I can find you. I am now at almost the last extremity, and our family has had to put up with cruel insults from strangers. If you do not return I can stand all this no longer and shall assuredly put an end to my existence, in which case you would be in danger of being struck down by lightning. If you return, no matter in what way, all will be arranged. I have even invented a plan by which your father will know nothing about your escapade. My life or death is a question of only a few more days. I entreat all well-disposed persons to spread abroad the advertisement so that it may be read by all whom it may concern. They will thus earn a profusion of hidden merit. Written by a woman of Son-cho—Take care that you are not struck down by lightning!"

That is no matter for derision, if "simple faith" be worthier "than Norman blood." To us, it reads like a Chinese *Lamentation of Margaret*.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1887.

THE LAW—A PRIVILEGED PROFESSION. LAWYERS by themselves are tough customers enough, but when they are banded together, Heaven help an unsophisticated world! This is the sort of persecution to which the innocent or unwary are exposed from such combinations :—

"Bow-Street.—Prosecution by the Law Society.—Mr. W. T. Peacock, of the Medical Transfer Agency and Accountancy Office, 19, Craven-street, Strand, appeared to a summons taken out by the Incorporated Law Society, charging him with unlawfully, wilfully, and falsely pretending to be a solicitor.—Mr. Hollams, instructed by Messrs. G. O. Humphreys and Sons, prosecuted; Mr. Wm. Doveton Smyth defended.—It appeared that the defendant had carried on business for the last twenty years as a medical agent, and the offence alleged was on the construction of a letter written by the defendant on behalf of a doctor whose business had been transferred, to demand payment from a lady of a sum due for medical attendance. It was argued in support of the summons that the defendant's letter was a breach of the Act, and special attention was drawn to the use of the words 'my client,' and 'my instructions are to take out a summons unless the amount of the debt is paid,' and further, 'trusting you will deem it prudent to settle the amount, and thereby avoid the additional costs and expenses to which you will be liable.'—Mr. Hollams called Mrs. Griffiths, to whom the letter was addressed, and she deposed that she considered from the tenor of the letter that it was from a solicitor.—Mr. Smyth said that no doubt the proceedings were taken in the interests of the profession, and the Incorporated Law Society had done great service in prosecuting cases, but this was an exceptional one. The defendant had merely acted as an agent, and he urged that what a medical man could do to recover his debts he could authorise an agent to do.—Sir Jas. Ingham: Then would it not be as well that it should be put 'Agent for Mr. So-and-so'?—Mr. Smyth thought it was a most valuable suggestion, and one which his client would in future most readily adopt, as he had no desire to evade the law.—Sir James Ingham said the word 'client' had recently come into general use, but he thought that the effect of the letter went to support the charge, but it was on the border line.—Mr. Smyth said this was the first case

against a medical agent.—Sir James Ingham fined the defendant 20s., and 3*l.* 12s. costs."

And this is the effect of arming a profession with extraordinary privileges! Above all, this is the effect of leaving the profession of law a close monopoly and drawing all the ministers and superior agents of justice from its members! Members of a society as we are, whose most prominent as well as fundamental feature is division into castes, we are not likely to undervalue the philosophy of privilege, but it is a thing of delicacy too easily overdone. In the foregoing instance, at any rate, the pretensions of privilege have, we are afraid, been carried to the length of persecution. Here is a respectable man who has carried an honest and far from ignoble profession, who has been hounded to the disgrace of a prosecution and convicted and punished for, what is at the worst, and admittedly, a mere slip in the ordinary way of business—perhaps only a slip of the pen. And this persecution, pursued by a guild of lawyers, has been favored by the prejudices, the interested if unconscious prejudices of lawyers supreme in the administration of the law!

What is Mr. PEACOCK's offence? He is usefully occupied in negotiating transfers of the goodwill in medical practice, in examining and settling the accounts of medical men and generally in being agent for them. In the course of his business, he, in behalf of a doctor whose business had been transferred through him, wrote to a patient to pay up her account. To enforce attention, he threatened, under instructions, to take out a summons against her, unless the amount was paid, concluding with warning her of the additional costs in which she might be involved if she did not amicably pay and the case was taken to court. Such a composition must be of the nature of the literature which lawyers are in the habit of issuing out of their offices, whether a man himself wrote to demand his dues or a friend or other agent did it for him. It would be a strange restriction on human liberty of thought—of which language is the expression—if either of them were not allowed to perform such a vicarious office of the most ordinary kind. No doubt, there is a defence for setting apart experts for the exclusive pursuit of certain objects in behalf of ordinary citizens. Whatever the theory may be worth, it is certainly an abuse of it to give latitude, as has been given in the case under notice. Poor Mr. PEACOCK had, however, the rashness to call the retired doctor for whom he acted his "client." That was unpardonable. That was the most provoking part of the cumulative offence—the principal count in the indictment, so to say. That unfortunate word seems to have most riled the Incorporated Lawyers, and it finally stuck in the magistrate's throat, and could not be dislodged or extracted by all the operations of Reason.

The defendant's own pleader, with his lawyerly instincts, seemed to think the word "client" a misappropriation in his client's possession—a sort of petty larceny on the latter's part from the rightful monopolists. Nevertheless, he showed himself honest lawyer enough to act up to his "salt." Yet, all he could attempt was to mitigate the severity of the sentence. The crime was acknowledged. In vain he laid it on thick on the presiding Daniel, in vain he expressed his client's contrition and his willingness to adopt the "most valuable suggestion" of the court and substitute "agent for So-and-So (doctor)" for the use of the word "client" (!), there was no mercy for the poor man. The Magistrate, Sir JAMES INGHAM, himself knew that "the word client had re-

cently come into general use," but so much the worse for it. An example must be made to check once for all such a practice—against lawyers if not against law. And so PEACOCK was offered as a victim—a vicarious sacrifice for a sinning world. At the worst, his alleged lapse was on the border lines, as Sir JAMES admitted. After that, he was bound to discharge the defendant, with a warning at most. But he convicted him and sentenced him to a fine. On his own showing, it was a case of doubt, and, on the fundamental principle of criminal jurisprudence, the benefit of that doubt was Mr. PEACOCK's due. But lawyers can forget the clearest law in the interest of the profession.

The "most valuable suggestion" of the bench was sufficiently imbecile, though it still discovered the prejudices of the law. Is it possible that the use of a handy word of a different, almost opposite, import can be dispensed with by a man in Mr. PEACOCK's line putting at bottom of his name "Agent for So-and-So"? And then, how is he to describe his "client"?

Such an agent cannot properly describe him a "principal," and "employee" would be wider off the mark. The same with hundred of other kinds of agents. There is no help but to adopt the word *client*. Hence the general use of it to which Sir JAMES INGHAM referred.

Thus the case affects much larger number than the Magistrate ever suspected. In deciding as he has done, he has trespassed on the rights of the people and the domain of Nature. He, a mere lawyer at best, has dared to interfere with the laws of human speech. But it is all vain. Even emperors have been foiled in their wilful efforts in this direction and an INGHAM is not likely to succeed where CÆSARS have been ignominiously beaten.

All this has an intimate bearing upon the efforts making in certain quarters to constitute the faculty of medicine into another monopoly, armed with powers for persecution. We hope the country will watch these "reformers."

#### THE MAGAZINES.\*

1887 will be remembered as the year of the Magazines. Its beginning ushered into the world *Concord*, from the Concord Club, a Monthly Review, edited by Baboo KALI CHARAN BANERJEE, the wellknown speaker and lecturer, a distinguished graduate of our university, who, having been a Professor in the Free Church College at which he was educated, is now a successful pleader in our courts. The commencement of its second half saw the revival, on new lines and under approved auspices, of a former periodical, as the *National Magazine*, New Series, a Monthly Review, from the printing and publishing office of Messrs. BANDO and MOOKERJEE, by Baboo KALLY PROSUNNO DAI. Both are essentially native—nay, Hindu—publications in the English language—indeed thoroughly English for that matter; so much so that but for the Calcutta imprimatur and the Asiatic names of the conductors and contributors, they might be mistaken for "Home" periodicals, of England, English. There is, broadly speaking, no nationality in literature, any more than sex or caste in mind, and the conductors have been well advised in not only leaving their arena open to all comers, provided they be intellectually eligible, but also in seeking the cooperation of the better spirits of all classes, tribes, creeds, and nations. With this reservation, these are thoroughly Indian—native Indian—publications. Both are under native management and conduct; well-printed and got up at native establishments—well-written by natives principally. The responsibility

\* *Concord*. Edited by Kali Charan Banerjee.

*The National Magazine*. New Series. A Monthly Review.

being natives'; the credit belongs to them. In calling them Hindu publications we mean no sectarian limitation; we use the term in its national or ethnological sense. Altogether, these are thoroughly respectable publications, of which the conductors may well be proud. The birth of two such periodical works at the capital of Bengal, constitutes an event of no small interest for the year, as the simultaneous appearance of the *Banga Darsan* in Bengali and the *Bengal Magazine* and *Mookerjee's Magazine* in English, in 1872, marked an era in the literary history of the country.

Both magazines started well, with good bills of fare, but without variety in the dishes, or rather without difference of course. In fact, the peculiar weakness of both establishments is heaviness. Both tables groan under the weight of substantial meats, wholesome of their kind, but hard of digestion by the ordinary reader's stomach. There is no sign of toothsome *entrées* or light exhilarating wines at either house. The tavern with the sign of *Concord* kept by a wellknown Christian caterer, is the greater sinner of the two. He has led his customers every month deeper and deeper into the confounding regions of mystery and the unconditioned. The June number contains four papers of which the first three are enough to scare away almost any reader by their very titles, namely—"Mind in Nature" by RAM CHANDRA BOSE; "Beyond the Smoke and Stir of Life" by A. CHAUDHURI; and "Sanskrit *versus* Science" By J. C. DUTT. Yet they may be useful things in their way and in their proper place, and served in proper quantities. Anything from the first writer must be worth reading and pondering—he is an accomplished thinker and now a veteran. The last one, "A Dream of Hope. I," by A. STEPHEN—is more hopeful in subject and treatment as in name, being a first notice of the Marquis Tseng article in the *Asiatic Quarterly* on China. As yet, however, the critic is on the threshold. The current number is still more forbidding with "Some Thoughts on Doubt," "The Philosophy of the Bhagavadgita," and "God Knowable." The Philosophy is a poor business, but the other papers are very good in their way, more suited however to a journal of Christian Metaphysics than to the pages of an ordinary Magazine. The only Magazine "padding" is the opening article on Student Life in Oxford by the Rev. Mr. C. W. TOWNSEND, a brief, too brief, but interesting account which ought to be widely read in India and might be useful to students preparing for Europe. The article supplies information not to be found in guide books nor even in Mr. ALGERNON STEDMAN'S *Oxford: its Social and Intellectual Life*.

The *National*, though heavy enough, wisely eschews metaphysics and theology. In both the two numbers out, there is a quantity of readable matter and some discussion of current topics. Still it is all what is technically called by the reviewers "padding." The articles which most attracted notice in the opening number, were Principal TAWNEY'S "Pythagoras in India," &c., and Dr. JOGENDRA NATH BHATTACHARJEE'S "Rukma Bai and Child Marriage," and Mr. BLAZE'S "Jubilee Ode." The paper on the Bai has been largely quoted in Bombay by the antireformers. The Ode has also been well-spoken of, but we would prefer to see Mr. BLAZE, who is a writer of great promise, to stick, for the present at any rate, to prose. Mr. TAWNEY writes on a recondite topic not fit for newspaper discussion. To us, the article is interesting as showing a distinct departure in the writer's disposition towards Indian claims. Mr. LINTON'S travels is a good magazine paper which ought to be made the most of by untravelled Indians who have little opportunity or inclination to study the works of LANE and WILKINSON and others.

The present number is a great advance in variety and interest and practical usefulness. Mr. LINTON continues his "Land of the Pharaohs." There is another dear scrap, of an Italian sketch by Mr. R. C. DUTT of the Civil Service, showing fine powers of description. Mr. BLAZE contributes an excellent article on "The Recent Debate on Privilege" in England—the first of a series. Mr. O. C. DUTT renders one of HEINE'S lyrics. It is poorly executed, but there was no help, considering the original is HEINE'S and the subject Glamour. HEINE is acknowledged to be untranslatable. Englishmen themselves scarcely understand him. Mr. DUTT is a veteran versifier, and we have read some charming things from his pen. But he must not attempt too much. The most interesting paper is on Cremation, in connection

with the report from the Calcutta Burial Board, by Mr. F. H. SKRINE, one of the most accomplished and thoughtful men in the Bengal Civil Service, who shows here a remarkable freedom from European prejudices. The ghastly subject has been made almost pleasant under his treatment. But the *pièce de résistance* is a most important inquiry into the Conjugal Rights and Duties of Hindu Husbands and Wives by the great Hindu jurist Dr. BHUTTACHARJEE. It is a most calm statement of a subject bearing on the great Indian question of the day, evidencing real knowledge without the slightest affectation of pedantry, and must tell.

We congratulate the spirited publisher Baboo KALI PROSUNNO DEY on his New Series. It is infinitely superior to his old magazine and is really a valuable serial.

## THE MARINE COURT.

MONDAY, AUGUST 22.

### LOSS OF THE "SIR JOHN LAWRENCE."

Donald Fraser Mackenzie, examined by Mr. Kilby, stated.—I am a partner in the firm of Macneill & Co. The owners of the *Sir John Lawrence* on her last voyage were as follows: My firm were proprietors of 32-64. Mr. William Mackinnon was proprietor of 16-64, and Duncan Macneill & Co. owned 16-64. That propriety was from September 1884 to date. From November 1875 to July 1881 Macneill & Co., of Calcutta, were proprietors of 12-64; the B. I. S. N. & Co. of 32-64; Duncan Macneill & Co. 20-64. From August 1881 to August 1884 we owned 16-64; the B. I. S. N. Co., 32-64; Duncan Macneill & Co., 16-64. The ship was bought from Mr. Sheppard in Bombay. I do not know the price. William Mackinnon and we paid our share. The transfer or change was done by the home firm. The cost of the great repairs in 1883-84 came to Rs. 95,000 according to documents in the firm and from my calculations. Since that repair she was insured at the time of her loss for £5,000 at home. I am not aware whether the Insurance Office surveyed the ship, nor am I aware that there was any necessity for such survey. This is the pay sheet and portage bill for March. From it I can say that in that month the *Sir John Lawrence* carried 30 deck crew and 20 engine-room crew. The pay bill for April, I believe, went down with the ship. There was no material difference between the numbers in these two months. There was a master and mate, clerk, Chinaman carpenter, butler, two cuddy servants, the cook and mate, 1 saloon topaz, 1 deck scrag, 1 tindal, 10 lascars, 2 deck topazes, 3 secunnies, 1 leadsmen, 1 *bhandari* and 1 *paniwalla*, all deck crew. I was at home when the great repairs of 1883-84 were going on, and cannot say what the negotiations were which preceded the decision that she should be repaired. The firm paid a sum of money to Mr. Bushby for his advice on certain matters in connexion with the requirements of the Board of Trade in regard to the alterations in the hull of the vessel, Mr. Young, who carried out the repairs, not being cognizant of those requirements. The honorarium paid to him was Rs. 1,000. All fees were paid to the Port Commissioners. The tickets sold on the last voyage were as follows: For accommodation in the after saloon as zenana, 10: second class passenger, in saloon, 1; 3rd class, ticket Nos. \* \* \* and a half-ticket, making a total of 731½. From that total deduct Nos. \* \* \* a total sold of 731 from which refunds were made, and a ticket torn up, which makes 21. Out of the 730 remaining some 30 or 40 passengers were allowed to proceed in the *Mabratta* but no notes were kept of these tickets. The licensed number was 735, 710 were issued, so that she was short of that number by some 25 apart from those who went by the *Mabratta*. So that she was 65 short of the licensed number. The money

*Holloway's Pills.*—Wrongs made Right.—Every day that any bodily suffering is permitted to continue renders it more certain to become chronic or dangerous. Holloway's purifying, cooling, and strengthening Pills are well adapted for any irregularity of the human body, and should be taken when the stomach is disordered, the liver deranged, the kidneys inactive, the bowels torpid, or the brain muddled. With this medicine every invalid can cure himself, and those who are weak and infirm through imperfect digestion may make themselves strong and stout by Holloway's excellent Pills. A few doses of them usually mitigate the most painful symptoms caused by undigested food, from which they thoroughly free the alimentary canal and completely restore its natural power and action.



collected on board is made over to Mr. Currie. The captain had a margin of 65 to fill up his complement. The captain had directions not to leave port with an excess number of passengers on board, and, as a consequence, the commander would not lift anchor so long as there were an excess number on board. I would not know, necessarily, what the sums would be the captain might obtain as receipts from passengers who had gone on board without tickets. I believe the captain is advised of the number of tickets sold at the office. We continue selling tickets in the office till the evening of Tuesday, and before closing, the captain is advised of the number sold and then if there be a margin he can fill it up by allowing others to come in. The money received from the captain would be entered in the office books. There are, I believe, such entries in the books. I have, since lunch, looked and verified that there are such entries in our cash sheets, the general cash transactions of the firm. Our cash book-keeper showed me two of these entries—one in a subsidiary book, and one in a cash sheet. I did not observe the amounts, they were small amounts. I would not necessarily come to know of the fact if the captain did at any time receive monies from passengers who did not have tickets. We keep a register of tickets issued for each voyage. Here is the register. I have looked through it. This register is from January the 5th, 1885, to the 6th of July, 1887. During this period, I believe, there were no excess tickets issued by my office on any voyage. It has never come to my knowledge that the steamer ever carried passengers in excess of the licensed number. The tickets for the voyage before the last, that is for the voyage of the 18th of May, was 715½ sold; and the captain collected an amount of Rs. 100, but I will not swear the actual amount, as I looked at the entry casually. I cannot say how many passengers paid the captain, and it was quite possible the whole amount was for freight alone. The captain collected deck freight. At Chandbally our agent there collects cargo charges, as the captain has nothing to do with this. The captain would pay in his collections here in Calcutta. I have never known the captain being fined for carrying excess passengers. I believe I am correct in saying he never was. Except the captain's tally we kept no check on the number of passengers actually landed either at Chandbally or Calcutta. Of course, there was also the police check. No commission was paid to the captain for any passengers who went on board without tickets or for anything else. These documents are signed by Mr. Currie on behalf of the firm. These two are also signed by him, and the other signed by Mr. D'Silva, chief clerk of the Port Office, I think.

To Captain de Smidt.—The classification of the vessel was taken out in February 1881, I believe. The steamer was insured at home. I do not know whether any report was sent out to Calcutta of the condition of the vessel with the object of protecting her insurer. I do not know what suggestions Mr. Bushby made as to the proposed alteration in the hull. I believe all our boats are surveyed under the Indian Passengers' Act; but whatever the surveys may be, we get a certificate.

To Mr. Trelawny.—Captain Irvine stood very well with my firm. I have been on several voyages with him and never saw him drink anything stronger than ginger ale. I had implicit confidence in him, and he was a great favourite with native passengers. I most certainly never saw him under the influence of liquor at any time, and I believe him to have been thoroughly kind and considerate to his passengers. He was a regular typical old sailor.

To the Court.—The price of the tickets varied according to the demand. The rates varied from Rs. 3 to Rs. 6. On the last voyage the prices rose from Rs. 3 to Rs. 6. We refunded money on 51 tickets, eleven at Rs. 3, and the remainder at Rs. 5. Speaking from the sale of tickets and allowing for the *Mabratta* contingent, she had 670 passengers on board, the maximum number being 735 in foul weather. If the police evidence is correct that she carried her full complement that day, there must have been 65 without tickets. I can't explain how it was that some of the persons who bought tickets for that voyage, were not received on board. The captain would be aware of the varying in the rates of passage. The after cabin was not a saloon. On getting information of Mr. Neustein's letter I referred the particulars to our Marine Superintendent, Mr. Young, for report, and on hearing from him, I consulted my solicitors on the advisability of prosecuting Neustein for defamation. They told me that it was not worth prosecuting a man who had not even a character to lose.

To Mr. Henderson.—Passages are granted right up to the end of the day before the ship sails. It would, therefore, be impossible to state on the application for certificate B. of the number of passengers she was going to carry on a particular voyage. I do not know why the prices were increased on the voyage in May. The Chandbally steamers were at that time running under an arrangement with a common purse, and no instructions were given to Captain Irvine or any one on board to turn away people with tickets in order to take passenger on board without tickets and charge them the higher prices. I have had not the slightest reason to doubt the honesty of Captain Irvine as to his dealing with passenger money. There was a clerk on board to collect tickets and deck freights, and to make up the manifest. It was the clerk's duty to

count passengers and report any excess. He never, as a matter of fact, reported any excess. I have known Captain Irvine about twenty years. There was no competition between the steamers running to Chandbally, at the time the steamer went on her last voyage. So far as our firm was concerned no inducements were held out to Captain Irvine to make quick passages. There was no likelihood at that time of the season when she went down, to get a full complement of passengers on her return voyage, as there was every possibility of the steamer returning almost empty.

### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 10th August 1887.—Baboo Deno Nath Dey, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VII (B.C.) of 1880 in the district of Gya, in supersession of Government notification, dated the 13th May 1887, vesting Baboo Raj Kishore Narain Singh with powers of a Collector in Gya under the Act abovementioned.

The 18th August 1887.—Baboo Kustori Lal, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Sarun.

The 20th August 1887.—Mr. R. H. Anderson, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Beerbhoom, acted in the first grade of Joint Magistrates and Deputy Collectors on the 16th and 17th July 1887.

Baboo Kumud Nath Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Ghatal, Midnapore, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in the district of Midnapore.

The 22nd August 1887.—Moulyic Shere Ali, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Sahabad, with effect from the 15th June 1887.

Baboo Kristo Chunder Chuckerbutty, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Chittagong Hill Tracts, is allowed leave for one month, under rule 2, section 138 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 22nd September next, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Gouri Sunker Biswas, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nowgong, Rajshahye, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of Tipperah.

Baboo Surrut Chunder Das, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is transferred to Rajshahye, and is appointed to have charge of the Nowgong sub-division of that district.

Mr. Syud Nurul Huda, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Mozufferpore, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of Shahabad.

Mr. J. G. Ritchie, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serampore, Hooghly, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of the 24-Pergunnahs, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. A. Forbes, or until further orders.

Mr. F. W. Duke, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Durbhunga, is transferred to Hooghly, and is appointed to have charge of the Serampore sub-division of that district, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. J. G. Ritchie, or until further orders.

The 23rd August.—Mr. Nunda Krishna Bose, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Noakholly, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. W. H. M. Gun, or until further orders.

This cancels the order of the 16th instant appointing Mr. G. W. Place to act as District and Sessions Judge of Noakholly.

The privilege leave for one month granted to Baboo Kali Pradsonno Chowdry, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakholly, under the order of the 5th July last, is commuted to leave for six months, under sections 128 and 141, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 15th July 1887.

JUDICIAL.—The 22nd August 1887.—Mr. F. W. Duke, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Serampore, Hooghly, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

Baboo Satis Chandra Bose, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakholly, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class.

Baboo Surendra Nath Ghose, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Khoolna, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class.

The 23rd August 1887.—Baboo Purno Chunder Shome, Officiating Subordinate Judge and Small Cause Court Judge of Monghyr, in the district of Bhagulpore, is appointed to be an Additional Subordinate Judge of the third grade, in the district of Shahabad, for one year, but will be employed as Additional Subordinate Judge of Gya.

### THE BARANAGAR ELECTION.

SIR,—With reference to the notice in the last issue of your paper of the Baranagore bye-election, permit me to say that your information is evidently derived from a partizan of one of the sides, and is thus colored with his natural prejudices. I was one of the rate-payers asked under the Rules to assist the polling officer and was present from the beginning to the end, and I shall therefore give you what I consider to be a more correct account of what took place.

You are rightly informed as to the protest addressed by the last elective Commissioner to the Government as well as to his repeating the protest before the polling officer, by means of a pleader. But the rest of what you say is misleading. The fact is there being thus one candidate, and he having been duly proposed and seconded no registration of votes was under the Rules called for, and therefore was not recorded. The election business is mightily simplified by the Rules when the number of candidates does not exceed the number of vacancies, what is required in such cases is that the polling officer shall declare the candidate or candidates nominated to be duly elected on a formal motion for the election. This is exactly what took place here. The statements made by you therefore as to there being no voters to elect or the electors having "evidently felt the force of the argument" on which the superseded candidate of the previous election rested his protest and "withdrawn without recording their votes" are wholly wrong. No registration of votes was called for, as there was only one candidate for one vacancy. As to the electors feeling the force of any argument, there was no such thing, unless I should tell you of a kind of force employed on the present occasion about which you seem to have been purposely kept in the dark and which would excite your righteous indignation if you heard of it. But I refrain from introducing scandalous matter in the discussion.

As to your opinion on the legal aspects of the question you are perfectly welcome to it, but in supporting that opinion, the just bearings of facts should not be lost sight of, and misleading statements should be scrupulously avoided.

KEDAR NATH MITTER.

The Barranagore, 24th August 1887.

Partizan, forsooth! And is there a greater partizan and free-lance than he in whose nostrils partizanship stinks? As for the authority of the assistant polling officer, there are as good fish out of the sea as are in it, and perhaps better.

On this writer's showing, the last election seems to have been almost as great a mess as its predecessors.---Ed., R. & R.

#### THE STAR THEATRE AND THE DACCA STUDENTS.

We print the following as we have received it from A Student of Dacca:

Dacca, 21st August.

Yesterday the Star Theatre Company of Calcutta arrived here with a view to performing here *Chaitanyalila* and *Pralladcharitra*.

The arrival of this company has originated a very strenuous agitation amongst the college and school boys of Dacca; five years ago similar agitations and movements took place, National Theatre Company came here, they also received a very cold reception from the Dacca boys. The boys then convened an assemblage of students, Mr. Pope principal of the local college presided over the meeting. Essays were read shewing the evil influence of seeing performance. Essays and lectures were of no avail, boys used to go to Theatre every night, at last the stoic movers of the meeting threatened the

boys who wanted to go. Threats and menaces even were not successful.

This year some college boys are actuated with the very same idea of their predecessors. They are expected to summon a meeting tomorrow. I hope, this year, this sitting of the few worthy and honest boys will be an object of derision.

The prime movers this year are most of them Bramaos, though not initiated, but I remember three of them were present in a *natch party* here.

They denounce acting on the grounds that it demoralises the boys, and that some of the actors are prostitutes; I am a student and I also possess all the elements of a student, I, in no way, see any harm in going to theatre.

*Chaitanyalila* and *Pralladcharitra* are, no doubt interesting and instructive, this two, I suppose can in no way deprave us, and there is not the least shadow of immorality in them.

Some of my rigorous friends argue that some divine and celestial characters will be represented by prostitutes, and how we can not but entertain some evil ideas against them, but I, on my part can say that there is no necessity of thinking about prostitutes when we see them in the habit of *Prallad* and *Chaitanya*; we must think of them as we see them on the stage.

Dacca is a fairly large town and it is almost monotonous, there is not a single place of recreation for Dacca people; Baboos work night and day without refreshing their mind with any pure and innocent amusement.

I admit that obscene plays may have some bad influence over tender and soft minds of the young students, but *Chaitanyalila* and *Pralladcharita* are no obscene plays, they are rather purely religious and there is no doubt they will stir the religious feelings amongst the students. I, therefore, request my enterprising friends to abstain from such an undertaking, because this will do them no good and evil consequences may follow it.

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Purify the Blood, correct all Disorders of the

#### LIVER, STOMACH, KIDNEYS AND BOWELS,

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## NOTIFICATION.

1. The Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta are prepared with the sanction of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to open a Debenture Loan for Rs. 15,54,500 under the provisions of Sections 334 and 336 of Act IV (B. C.) of 1876 on the security of the rates, taxes and dues imposed and levied under the said Act.

2. Debenture-holders of the 6 per cent. Municipal Loan of 1867 for five lacs of rupees repayable on the 1st September 1887 having applied for repayment of their Debentures to the extent of Rs. 3,54,500 by transfer at par to the Loan of this year, the Commissioners will receive subscriptions from the public for Debentures amounting to twelve lacs of rupees only.

3. The Debentures will have a currency of thirty years from the 1st January 1888, and will bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum payable on the 1st January and 1st July of each year.

4. The form of the debenture-bonds will be that given in the seventh schedule of the aforesaid Act.

5. No debentures will be issued for any sum less than Rs. 500, and above that amount, debentures will be issued only for even sums of Rs. 100.

6. Tenders for the whole or any part of the above-named sum of Rs. 12,00,000 will be received by the Secretary to the Corporation up to 2 o'clock P. M. of the 12th September 1887.

7. Each tender must be made out in the form annexed to this notification, and enclosed in a sealed cover addressed to the Secretary to the Corporation, and superscribed "Tender for Municipal Loan of 1887-88."

8. Each tender must be accompanied by Government Promissory Notes, currency notes or cheques for not less than 3 per cent of the amount tendered.

9. When a tender is accepted, the deposit when made in currency notes or cheques will be held as a payment in part of the amount tendered, and will bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum from the 12th September, provided that the whole amount tendered is paid up in the manner hereinafter prescribed; but no debenture will issue for the sum so deposited so long as the entire amount of the tender is not paid.

10. The deposits on tenders which may not be accepted, will be returned on application, and no interest will be payable on such deposits. If an allotment after being made, is not taken up and the full amount allotted is not paid as hereinafter prescribed the deposit will be forfeited.

11. The rate at which a tender is made, must be specified in rupees or rupees and annas: a tender in which the rate is not so specified, will be rejected as null and void.

12. The rates stated in a tender must not contain any fraction of an anna. If a rate containing a fraction of an anna is inserted in any tender, such fraction will be struck out, and the tender treated as if the rate did not contain such fraction of an anna.

13. The amount of the accepted tenders must be paid into the Bank of Bengal in the following instalments:—50 per cent on the 31st of October 1887, 25 per cent on the 30th November 1887 and the balance on the 31st December 1887.

Parties whose tenders are accepted, will have the option of paying all or any of the in-

stalments before the dates specified above, and will receive interest from the date of such payment.

14. Anticipation interest will be paid on all instalments from the respective dates on which such instalments are paid into the Bank of Bengal, to the 31st December 1887.

15. Tenders will be accepted in the order of rates tendered beginning with the highest rate. In case of two or more tenders at the same rate, a *pro rata* allotment will be made (if the tenders are accepted), but no allotment will be issued if the amount distributable on any tender is less than Rs. 500.

16. Tenders will be opened by the Loan Committee of the Commissioners at 3 o'clock on the 12th September 1887.

ROBERT TURNBULL,

Secretary to the Corporation.

20th August 1887.

#### FORM OF APPLICATION FOR DEBENTURES.

I hereby tender for Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ of the Municipal 5 per cent. loan for 1887-88, and agree to pay for the same subject to the conditions notified at the rate of Rupees.....annas..... for every hundred rupees allotted to me.

I enclose Government promissory notes, currency notes or a cheque for Rs. \_\_\_\_\_

Signed.....

Dated.....1887.

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT.)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1887.

No. 289

## The Week.

THERE has been an interruption in the through Railway traffic near Jaipur. Two girders and a pier of a bridge gave way and brought down with them a luggage train. The driver and the native fireman are missing.

THE Thakore of Palitana has appealed against the decision of the Judicial Assistant of Kattywar dismissing his suit for Rupees thirteen lacs.

THEY have decided upon an Oriental Seminary in Berlin University. It will be opened on October 18 under the direction of Professor SACHAU.

FEMALE Railway compartments have not been an unmixed good. It is reported some thieves made their way into a female compartment on the North-Western Railway of a mixed train between Hamria and East Band Beas, and, after wounding a woman, made away with jewellery of the value of Rs. 2,000.

THE P. and O. Jubilee steamer *Victoria* will be subsidised to the extent of £3,000 per annum, that she may be available to the Admiralty in time of war.

THE Shanghai Correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed that

"An astonishing financial coup has just been made here. The American Silver Ring and Mr. Jay Gould, through the agency of the Polish Count Mitkiewitz and the Viceroy Li, have established an American Chinese Bank, with a capital of £200,000,000, mostly American money. The new bank will receive and disburse all the moneys of the Imperial and Provincial Governments, and will have charge of the contracts for the railways and telegraphs, as also for the coinage, the issue of bank notes, and the War Department. The announcement of this gigantic speculation has naturally created something like a panic among financiers of other nationalities."

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* reports that

"An old man of seventy named Eugène Denizot, who occupied a garret at 10, Rue de Brosse, Paris, died suddenly the other morning. The Police Commissary who was called in was leaving the wretched room after throwing a glance around when he accidentally overturned an old table, the drawer of which fell out and with it a stream of Napoleons amounting as it turned out to 100,000f. A further and close search in the garret led to the discovery of notes and securities representing 900,000f more. The old miser was never known to receive any one, and is supposed to leave no heir."

No moral aberration is more miserable than the passion for hoarding. With many, hoarding itself is its own exceeding great reward. Witness O'DOHERTY and the ELWESES! witness some of the most prominent men in Calcutta society!

THEY made special arrangements at Delhi to prevent any disturbances during the *Eed* celebration. The *Pioneer* publishes a telegram saying that—

"Mr. Merk, the deputy commissioner, has made excellent arrangements for the *Eed* festival tomorrow, 30th, and had done his best to please both parties. The restrictions in regard to goats and sheep have been removed; but kine must be killed only at slaughter-houses, the animals being taken out of the city only by three gates, and their

flesh brought back in some way properly concealed from view. The city has been divided into five sections, each section being in charge of a stipendiary magistrate, who will be assisted by two honorary magistrates and same number of municipal commissioners. All the leaders on both sides have been freely utilised, and the arrangements are complete as the local authorities can make them; yet every hour discloses fresh difficulties, and the people are showing a disposition to be troublesome. An attempt has been made to get up a general sacrifice of kine at Shahdera on the Meerut side of the Jumna, and arrangements are being made to prevent this if possible. Some twenty low characters of the city, who have already given trouble or have shewn a disposition to be troublesome to-morrow, have been dealt with as bad characters, and locked up for the period the *Eed* will last. Altogether the authorities will have enough to do to keep the peace for the next two days. Since writing the foregoing there has been a public affray between some half-dozen turbulent spirits, but only one man has been arrested; he has severe wounds on the forehead inflicted by a *lathi*."

HERE is the closing programme of the Lieutenant-Governor's tour:—

Sunday,	"	4th ...	Bankipur	...	By rail.
Monday,	"	5th ...	Halt.		
Tuesday,	"	6th ...	Leave Bankipur	...	By river.
Wednesday,	"	7th ...	Rajmehal	...	By river.
Thursday,	"	8th ...	Leave Rajmehal	...	By river.
Friday,	"	9th ...	Rampore Beaulah	...	By river.
Saturday,	"	10th ...	Sara Ghât	...	By river.
Sunday,	"	11th ...	Leave Sara Ghât	...	By rail.
Monday,	"	12th ...	Rungpore	...	By rail.
Tuesday,	"	13th ...	Dinapore	...	By rail.
Wednesday,	"	14th ...	Jalpaigoree	...	By rail.
Thursday,	"	15th ...	Darjeeling	...	By rail.

MR. CRAWLEY-BOEVEY, of the Fort Police, Bombay, properly refused an application for summons for defamation, unless it was shown that the matter complained of was malicious. A Parsee named CURSETJEE SORABJEE JUSSAWALA had applied for the process against the Honorary Secretary for the Protection of Cows, BYRAMJEE DINSHA PANDAY, in that Mr. PANDAY refused to have him as his associate in the office, for Mr. PANDAY had heard from a friend that Mr. JUSSAWALA had misappropriated money of a Parsee lady, and this he alleged as his ground to Sir DINSHAW MANOCKJEE PETIT for not taking JUSSAWALA in. The Magistrate considered that this proved no malice and asked Mr. PANDAY to come better prepared if he still insisted on a summons.

M. PASTEUR proposes to send out his pupil M. LAMPREY to test his inoculation theory on Indian cattle.

MR. MACAULIFFE has been completely exonerated by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab. "After full and careful examination of the file and of your memorandum, Mr. LYALL accepts your explanations as satisfactory, and a reply to that effect has been communicated to the Judges of the Chief Court, with an explanation of the Lieutenant-Governor's reasons." The Government also "express a hope that your detention for the purpose of offering your explanation has not been of serious inconvenience to you." Mr. MACAULIFFE, as a necessary sequence, returns to his appointment at Sialkote.

IN reply to the Madras Government Resolution, about a dozen natives have offered their services as Volunteers.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Times* suggests the joint occupation of Afghanistan by England and Russia.

*Truth* has it that

"The 'Ruby' match-boxes of Bryant and May cost the company 2½d. per 144 boxes. The women who make them have to find paste, hemp, and firing for drying purposes. They can gain, if skilful, ¾d. per hour, or less than 10d. for twelve hours' work. If they work eight hours per diem, and take a holiday on Sundays, they would realize the handsome salary of 3s. per week. The company pays its shareholders above 20 per cent. dividend. This seems to me hardly a fair division between those who toil and those who do not."

*Truth* complains :—

"The effective force of the German army costs £19,369,000; the effective force of our army costs £14,600,000. For her expenditure, Germany gets 19 *corps d'armee* of 37,000 each. Says General Brackenbury: 'We should hardly be able to put into the field one *corps d'armee* of 30,000 men.' It is true that the German is a conscript army. A German soldier gets 4½d. per diem; an English soldier gets 1s. 2d. per diem. But even if full allowance be made for this, the cost of the two armies is, in proportion to their numerical strength, as two is to one."

ALSO :—

"Putting aside the reckless waste owing to maladministration, we have 109 Generals who are unemployed, whilst in Germany no man is ever made a General until there is employment for him. The difference too, in the rate of pay may be gathered from one fact: the Commander-in-Chief of our army gets £6,600 per annum, and Marshal von Moltke gets £1,600; and yet, with all respect to the Duke of Cambridge, it can hardly be said that as a Commander-in-Chief His Royal Highness is worth four times as much as Moltke."

THE Ameer of Cabool is reported to be perfectly satisfied with the settlement of the boundary question. Good Ameer! wiser and more just than more civilised rulers.

THEY have come upon a buried treasury in Madura. The Collector of Madura reports to Government :—

"Mr. Bartels, Inspector of Police, Madura taluk, reported in his diary that he had discovered what appeared to be a concealed treasure room near the village of Dadanpatti, in the Ammayanayakanur Zemindari, about 16 miles from Madura. I have just been to the village myself, and find that a very curious subterranean room, or rather series of rooms, do exist there. The building appears to be constructed of rubble stone and chunam. The hill where the room is constructed is called 'Kouga' Malai (treasure hill), and there is a tradition in the village that it was built in the time of the Pandyan to conceal the treasure belonging to a large fort, at the time that the fort was captured and destroyed. There are very distinct traces of the walls of a large fort, which the villagers call 'Kula Sekara Pandyan Kottai.' It is possible that this curious building may contain either treasure, or at least articles of great antiquarian value; and I therefore think that it should be opened. When Mr. Bartels first went to the spot, he could find no opening anywhere, but the old man who gave him the information, and whose statement I herewith forward, showed him where to dig, and on digging there, he came to the walls of the room. There is at present no entrance to the room; if there ever was an entrance, it has been closed up for centuries. Neither Mr. Bartels nor I were able to go inside; in fact, it would be dangerous to do so on account of the bad air. A stick with a lighted candle revealed a series of dome-shaped rooms opening into one another. From the statement of the old man, it would appear that in the attempt made to enter the building some 65 years ago, one of the party met with his death. Of course the cause of death was attributed to an evil spirit. We made some other rather curious discoveries at this village, and, at a village called Paravai, the same police officer has come across an unusually large and perfect collection of what Bishop Caldwell calls 'Madan muttan tali' at page 281 of his *Tinevelly Manual*. Further, Bishop Caldwell writes to me from Kodaikanal that certain old cromlechs on the Palanis are being destroyed and are crumbling away, and suggests 'it might be well if you would send some suitable person to inspect what remains of these prehistoric remains and report.' I am quite of this opinion, and would ask whether Dr. Thurston, or some other competent officer, might not be deputed to investigate these interesting remains."

AYUB KHAN has given the slip to his detainers. He has escaped from Persia. He was allowed to go? was it not?

ON Monday Lady Dufferin was created a knight, and decorated by the Persian Consul with the Order of the Sun by command of his master the Shah.

AN arrack vendor has been fined Rs. 7 by the Deputy Tahsildar, Ootacamond, for diluting his arrack with water. Is there any special law obtaining in the South of India by which adulterers of food and drink could be brought to book?

AT an Officers' Club at Simla, a Mahomedan servant shot a Hindoo servant dead for calling him a *soor*, and when asked to give up the revolver, the Mahomedan shot himself dead.

PRIVATE POTTS, 2nd Oxfordshire Light Infantry, wooed but won not an East Indian, Miss XAVIER, residing at Saint John's Hill, Bangalore. He wanted to marry her but she would not consent because of his short service. Monday night before last, after the roll-call, he broke out of the barracks with his rifle, proceeded to the house of his love which being closed, he shot himself at the gate through the heart.

THE United Burma must continue a Chief Commissionership. The Secretary of State for India is not disposed to raise it to a Lieutenant-Governorship.

HEAVY floods in the Bolan have destroyed four miles of railway. The repairs are estimated at Rs. 50,000, time one month.

THE block of promotion in the Telegraph Department, is to be removed by pensioning off some twenty officers of long services.

SUNFLOWER is a valuable preventive against malaria :—

"It is stated on the authority of a Cuban journal that since the sunflower has been cultivated in certain swampy districts on the banks of the river Potomac malarial fever has almost ceased to be endemic there. Similar beneficial results appear also to have followed the cultivation of this plant in the neighbourhood of the mouth of the Scheldt in Holland. The editor of the *Monthly Journal of Pharmacy*, who has been engaged in observations on sunflowers found that during the month of June 1885, a quarter of an acre of sunflower exhaled, with a mean temperature of 70 deg. F. at midday, exactly 1,950 gallons of water in the form of vapour, or 65 gallons a day. He attributes the antimalarial action of the sunflower, therefore, not only to its properties of absorbing and destroying the malarial miasm and of emitting an abundance of pure oxygen, as taught by other writers, but also to its great capacity, owing to its rapid and vigorous vegetation, of absorbing and utilising the moisture of the soil in districts which are unfit for human habitation. He likewise suggests that the aromatic odour of the flowers may perhaps be possessed of antiseptic virtues."

THE Canning College, Lucknow, has been purged of its Middle-Class. The vacant chair of law has been filled by Mr. DEGRUTHER, barrister-at-law. They would not take back Baboo RAJ KUMAR SARBADHIKARI who wanted to continue as Sanskrit Professor, although he had resigned. We hope it means no slur on the Baboo.

THE Home remittances during the official year to 27th August, give the figure £6,954,000. The budget estimate for the twelvemonth, is £16,114,000.

IT is telegraphed that in a letter to the *Times*, Mr. Justice SCOTT recommends the payment of salaries to officials in India at a fixed value of the Rupee, namely, to officials of more than five years' standing at one shilling and eight pence and those of lower standing at two pence less.

IT is said that Sir BRADFORD LESLIE retires from the E. I. R. Agency on a bonus of six thousand pounds. Alas, for the contracting monopolists on the other side of the river!

THERE is a living magnet of intense power and activity in France. If the following case be true as it is strange, all we can say is, may he never cross the sea over to India! In fact, the European Foreign Offices ought to take the matter up in order to see whether France should not be pressed to confine her horrible animal magnet within an asylum :—

"A young woman named Nunnee, aged 24, was married 12 years ago; she, however, did not go to her husband's house till two years afterwards. After staying with him for eight days, she suddenly became insensible and remained so for two or three days. She was taken back to her mother and soon got well. Then follows a very remarkable history. During the next four or five years she never entered her husband's house without falling insensible and remaining so. He was very kind and attentive to her, she liked him, but whenever he came into her presence she at once sank into this state. This went on till she became emaciated and exhausted and at last her parents applied to the court for a separate maintenance for her. While she was in court the husband entered and she instantly became insensible and was carried to hospital, where the case was carefully attended to by Dr. Cullen. While in this state her pulse was even, breathing soft, her body plain and relaxed, she could eat nothing. Experiments were carefully made to see if there was no trick about it. While she was in bed her husband was muffled up and made to walk through the ward. She said she felt he was near her and she was by no means well, but had not seen him anywhere about. Next day this experiment was repeated, and she actually became insensible as before. When the husband left the place she recovered. The experiment as to the influence of the husband's presence was tried in all sorts of ways."

He was made to pass behind her and to be near her in a separate ward, but this had no effect; but whenever he was brought to look on her face, though muffled up, or disguised as a policeman, as a sepoy, and so forth, she was at once influenced. The experiments continued for about a month, and the conclusion was that the husband unconsciously mesmerised her. The court came to the conclusion that it was impossible she could live with him and a separate allowance was ordered. The husband was asked to try if he could not remove the effect seeing that he had power to cause it, but he was quite frightened at the idea of having the power and could not control it in any way."

By day and night, but this is wondrous strange!

A FRENCH woman, calling herself Madame ROY, has been convicted of an original mode of larceny. Patrolling the streets of Paris for her prey, as was her wont, if she saw a gentleman run over by an omnibus, or a fall down in a fit in the street, and there was no companion of either, she immediately appeared as a relative of the sufferer, on whom she lavished her attention, and then in a right sisterly or motherly way took the victim in a cab, either to a chemist's shop or the patient's home. In the cab she would search the pockets, and relieve them of the contents. Then she would suddenly stop the vehicle, and alight, on one pretext or another, telling cabby she would return in a few minutes, but of course never coming back.

THE British cantonment of Neemuch is said to be threatened by an armed gang of fifty Afghans, supposed to be lurking about the native States.

IN connection with the late naval review on the occasion of the Jubilee, it is related that—

"When the Queen was receiving the naval captains, a little steam-boat crammed with 'cheap trippers' passed across the bows of the *Victoria*, and the passengers gave three cheers for Lord Hartington and Lord Randolph Churchill, who were known to be on board the P. and O. vessel. The two noble lords, being aft, missed this demonstration, and were apparently unacquainted with what had happened until some time afterwards, when they ran against Mr. Chamberlain. 'You two men,' said the right hon. gentleman, 'have just been cheered by some people in a steamboat, but they were all drunk!' 'Oh, were they?' drily replied the Marquis of Hartington, 'but it seems that they were not drunk enough to cheer you!'"

A good example of the retort courtois.

CAPTAIN HEARSEY is not only a most indefatigable and bold exposé of official iniquities, but he has a large fund of anecdote with which he amuses and edifies the public. He has shed light on several passages in the Indian history of our century and cleared up more than one reputation from unmerited odium. As in the affairs and questions of the day, so in matters of history, he is impartial in his regards to European and native alike. He has now been moved to justice to the ex-Ameer YACOOB KHAN. This is his account of the death of the lamented CAVAGNARI:—

"On the morning of that eventful day the Amir Yacooob Khan was sitting in his Darbar surrounded by his own relations and his wives' relatives, to wit, Yayahya Khan and Tekuayah Khan, and many other nobles and attendants; not the slightest suspicion or breath of rumour had reached his ears as to what was about to happen, but he could not help noticing that there was some excitement amongst the nobles present at the darbar; but as this was not a very uncommon occurrence, he did not pay any attention to it thinking that, whatever it was, it would leak out sooner or later during the darbar. Suddenly there was a sound of musketry firing in the direction of the Bala Hissar, and he turned round and enquired the cause of it, and received as a reply that it was only the regiments on parade. Some little time after this a messenger arrived from Cavagnari, intimating that the Bala Hissar was being attacked by the populace, and to send some reliable troops for his assistance and protection. Yacooob ordered his horse with the intention of putting himself at the head of his regiment of artillery which he could trust, and going to his assistance in person. Some little delay was caused in ordering and bringing the horse. When it came, another message from Cavagnari arrived, telling the Amir to come sharp, as he was not only attacked by the mob but by the regular troops. The Amir rose in haste and ran to reach his horse, but before he could reach the entrance he was brought back by force, and a long consultation took place, his relatives and wives' relatives, notwithstanding his almost abject supplications, refusing to allow him to go to the assistance of the Kaffirs. A third message arrived at this juncture from Cavagnari to this effect: 'For God's sake come at once without delay, we shall all be massacred; I can't hold out any longer.' Whilst the Council were persuing it, and before those around him were aware of it, Yacooob rushed from the room to his horse which was still being walked up and down; he had reached it and got his foot into the stirrup, and was in the act of mounting, when he was again forcibly seized and brought back to the darbar room. He threw himself on the ground near his throne weeping violently in a state of great agitation and grief, saying to those who surrounded him that his *issat* was gone, that it would be better for him to be a grasscut in the British service than to reign over such a set of *beimans* as the Afghans. What reply

could he give to the Government of India and what excuse would he make? The Government of India had been as a father and mother to him; he would not rule over such budmashes any more. He would surrender himself to the Indian Government as a prisoner, and they could do what they liked with him, not for any crime or fault of his, but for the wickedness of those about him. This we know he did on the first opportunity that occurred which clearly goes very far to prove that no sin rested on his shoulders, as he was virtually a prisoner in the hands of his wives' relatives and his nobles whilst the tragedy of poor Cavagnari's massacre was taking place."

## Editorial Notes.

THE firebrand is coming nearer home. Mr. CLIFFORD LLOYD will be provided for in Ceylon. Let our good Colonial neighbours beware! He probably succeeds Sir CECIL SMITH, Lieutenant-Governor and Colonial Secretary, appointed Governor of the Straits Settlements. One would have thought that, after repeated experiences, the Ministry would not be in a hurry to find him office. In fact, after such a career as his in Mauritius, any other man would have completely lost credit. But the CLIFFORDS and LLOYDS are a favoured tribe. The fact is, nephews and cousins cannot be left to starve. And what is the good of Colonies and Dependencies, if they will not find room for those that cannot be passed upon the Home public?

Sir JOHN POPE HENNESSY joins his government of Mauritius in October. We believe he stays to see the *Times* for defamation, damages laid at £10,000, unless the suit is sooner compromised. Sir JOHN has shown more courage than his leading countryman, Mr. PARNELL.

THERE is a vacancy in the Gwalior Council of Regency. It is not to be filled by a European. Extraordinary moderation!

THE Chief Magistrate referred to the High Court the question—whether, upon the trial of a person charged with being in dishonest possession of stolen property, evidence can be given of a previous conviction of the accused for attempting to receive stolen property under Sections 511 and 411 of the Penal Code? A Full Bench, consisting of the Chief Justice and Justices Mr. PIGOT, Mr. PRINSEP, Baboo GHOSH, and Mr. BEVERLEY, J. J., have most unwillingly answered that "previous convictions are in every case admissible. That must be the law so long as this section (54 of the Evidence Act) remains unaltered. We own that could we have come to any other conclusion we should have done so; but it is our duty to carry out the intentions of the legislature."

WE have a new *sarant* in our midst, and one without ostentation, though a Frenchman. The Sultan of Turkey has been pleased to bestow the Cross of the Commander of the Order of Osmanie on M. GASSELIN, the French Consul at Calcutta. M. GASSELIN is an Arabic scholar, and it is his well-known French-Arabic dictionary which has procured for him a decoration rarely conferred on the Frank.

A CORRESPONDENT from London writes to the *Bombay Gazette*:—

"For some weeks the names of Sir Henry Morland and Sir Charles Lawson were duly inscribed on the honours' list for knighthood. But at the fatal moment of final revision Lord Cross, acting no doubt on imperative commands which brooked no refusal, to effect a considerable reduction in the number of names, erased the two just mentioned. As an intimation had already been given that the names were actually on the list, a notification of the excision became an awkward necessity. Remonstrances were vain, but they were made at the India Office and Lord Cross was inexorable. The two expectant knights were informed of their fate, and they proceeded to Windsor in the full belief that the Jubilee had no special joy in store for them. The resignation with which they bore the trial gained the active sympathy of the Duke of Connaught who used his personal influence with his Royal mother to such purpose that both gentlemen were knighted there and then."

That was a piece of rare luck, and the unexpected resolution or rather dissolution of disappointment must have afforded the new Knights a happiness far in excess of what the honor could otherwise have secured them. The account reads like an incident in literary fiction; and will doubtless encourage novelists in their quest of "sensation." We congratulate Sir HENRY and Sir CHARLES. The Duke has had the satisfaction of having assisted at a pretty romance of real life, the remembrance whereof in after years will always be a source of pleasure. India ought to be grateful to His Royal Highness for his active interest in behalf of two Indians who had no personal claims on him. The Press in especial should never forget that it was the Duke who



practically obtained for it the high distinction of knighthood for one of its most eminent knights of the quill. It is easy to rail at princely soldiers, but history is full of the deeds of soldier-princes, the history of England not excepted. We are sure when the time comes our GUELPH will not be found malingering. Meanwhile, a royal Commander-in-Chief may be useful in many ways not confined to the profession. Here is an instance in point. The service thus performed on the occasion of the Jubilee in England, was not slight. It could only have been performed by a son of the Sovereign. Apart from the slight to India that could have been involved in the omission of the compliment fancy the personal consequences to Messrs. MORLAND and LAWSON had the omission remained unrectified! It is all very well to admire the resignation with which they bore their trial, when, at the last moment, they were informed that they were, after all, not to receive the promised honors. No doubt, they did not set up weeping and wailing at the announcement, but went to Windsor all the same like men with a sense of duty and the ability to discharge it under difficulties. But how few men are equal to that nerve and equanimity! Most men would have broken down under the circumstances, we fear. And what must have been the feeling of their families?

We want to know the author of the torture. We cannot believe that the imperative orders at the eleventh hour emanated from Her Gracious Majesty, unless she had been kept ignorant of the fact that the gentlemen had already been informed that they were to be created knights. Was the Indian official party jealous of too many honors to non-official Indians? We strongly suspect the same influence was at the bottom of the contemplated exclusion that annoyed and humiliated our Indian Princes in England. Was young FITZGERALD here too the evil genius?

SIR LEPEL GRIFFIN has done his best to put Holkar into good humour—after the unfortunate Jubilee fiasco. Under date India Office, June 30, 1887, in the *London Gazette* of the 5th July, it is announced that "The Queen has been graciously pleased to nominate and appoint His Highness the Maharaja Holkar of Indore to be a Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India." The same *Gazette* also creates His Highness the Rao of Kutch a Knight Grand Commander, His Highness the Thakore Sahib of Morvi and the Thakore Sahib of Limri, Knights Commander, and Kumar Shri KALOOPA, brother of His Highness the Rao of Kutch, a Companion of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire. We are glad to remark this disposition to make amends to our princes—especially in the face of the threats of annexation audibly uttered in certain quarters. Kuch Behar alone goes without any titular acquisitions, though the best-loved and most lovable of all the crowned heads we sent. There is too a striking contrast between the consideration paid to his worthy spouse and the apparent neglect shown in the denial of honours. We suspect the truth to be that he was offered knighthood of India but he would take nothing less than a Grand Command, or a British Order. If so, he is wise. What, after all, does it matter, to a man in the position of the Maharaja of Kuch Behar whether he has or has not any other handle to his name?

THE Joint-Magistrate of Alipore, Mr. HOLMWOOD, has changed his opinion in the Garden Reach dog case. He at first rejected the complaint of Mr. E. C. VAN CUTSEM, Merchant, Emigration Cooly Agent for Surinam, and Representative of the Dutch Government, against Messrs. JOHN KIDSTON and H. ROSS, his neighbours, for destruction of his two dogs. The District Judge on a motion had ordered a remand for proper investigation. The case came on again before Mr. HOLMWOOD and the two defendants pleaded not guilty, their plea being that they thought the dogs were pariah dogs and they shot them believing them to be nobody's property. The pleas were not accepted by Mr. HOLMWOOD and he sentenced defendant KIDSTON to a fine of Rs. 50 and defendant ROSS to Rs. 200. But does this order end the quarrel between the good neighbours?

MR. GOVIND SITARAM TAMBANE, Magistrate of Karad not of the First Order, has a first class conception of his dignity. His High Dignity was travelling with his clerks by rail to Karad. Himself of the second grade, he preferred a third class carriage in which VENKONA BIN RAMAYA, described as a respectable merchant of Bombay, and another we re passengers. To while away the tediousness of the journey, these

two lit their *beerees* and were about to smoke, when the offended dignity of the second-class Magistrate was roused and they were asked to put off smoking. The merchant and his companion heeded not the protest and began to enjoy the luxury. As soon as the train arrived within the jurisdiction of the disregarded functionary, he ordered the arrest of the two offenders who were bound further South and they were brought up before him in the Magistracy. On the evidence of his companion clerks Mr. TAMBANE convicted the merchant and his companion and sentenced them to fines of Rs. 20 and Rs. 5, alternating the fines with seven and three days' simple confinement. The Indian Criminal Procedure Code still recognizes the salutary principle that a man should not be judge in his own cause, and the High Court of Bombay have set aside the conviction and ordered the refund of the fines.

MR. PYNES, in charge of the Ameer's workshops at Cabool, writes:—

"The buildings are almost finished. The Afghan bricklayers work well. The people—I mean the civilised community—are very courteous, and the Ameer has been very kind to me so far, but he is a man whose word cannot be disputed. I saw a curious piece of architecture here the other day—a ghastly triumphal arch, made by artisans of the place, with the heads of 200 prisoners taken in rebellion. You can imagine the horror of the sight. Yesterday I was riding through the bazar and came across the head, mounted on a pole, of the late Governor of Herat."

The Afghans are scarcely more civilised than the Tartars, among whom, as among the Kookies, Dyaks and other tribes in the same stage, head-hunting still prevails. The point is to have killed your man; the more heads taken, the greater the hero! VAMBERY gives a business-like cut and a plain letter-press description of the counting of heads at the treasury, where, doubtless, certificates are granted to these precious warriors. Apart from the downright frankness and ghastly realism of the military profession in Central Asia, there is not much to choose between the Usbeg and the more Western hero. After all, the game of war is much the same all the world over, in essentials, in Christian as in Heathen land, the superiority lying in the number of heads fallen. As old Bishop Porteus says—

Ore murder made a villain,

Millions a herp. Princes are privileged

To kill, and numbers sanctified the crime.

So the glum satirist of the *Night Thoughts*—

One to destroy is murder by law;

And gibbets keep the lifted hand in awe;

To murder thousands takes a specious name,

War's glorious art, and gives immortal fame!

As for the exposure of the head of the late Governor of Herat, that is the principle of public executions carried to its legitimate conclusion. It is not many years since the practice was observed in India. We believe it was done so in England within this century. It is certainly less objectionable than to allow executions to be made an occasion for low ribald jollification and ribald amusement, as they are allowed in England.

We wonder whether the Earl RUSSELL of the Indian Foreign Office is preparing to inflict on the Ameer a long despatch against the shedding of blood by way of exercising moral influence in every sense.

THE *Madura Mail* is right in surmising that its editorial note on Mr. H. J. STOKES' appointment to the High Court drew us out on the subject. We thought we were pretty safe in our remarks, based as they were on universal truths. We see we have offended our good brother. In his vexation he is prepared to undervalue Mr. STOKES' services as the Magistrate committing the notorious Salem Perjurers—services rendered in most difficult times and at a critical moment. That is to be lamented. We did not suspect that our general remarks contained such a sting. The writer protests rather too much:—

"As to what people in Madura think of him and of his administration of their District,—people as honest, sober and sensible as our contemporary—we are undoubtedly a good and safe authority."

He is too excited to see the flaw in that argument. Are these honest, sober and sensible people, who make public opinion in the far South, so different from the serving and pleading classes in Tanjore and other Districts—indeed so high above humanity in general? They may be honest as JACK BANNISTER or JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, sober as Musulman Judges should be but are not always in Northern India, and sensible as BEN FRANKLIN, but are they quite disinterested in the matter? Good and honorable as its conductors doubtless are, is the *Mail* necessarily a safe authority? Distance may lend enchantment

to the view, but nearness may equally be fatal to correct vision. Having asserted the honesty, sobriety, and sensibleness of his people and vindicated his authority, our brother relents, though he is as sarcastic as ever:—

"Our esteemed contemporary however is welcome to admire any one he chooses, wholesale and to his heart's content. We shall not rake up old sores even for his special sake."

A good resolve. Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof.

QUOTING, from the *Pall Mall Gazette*, the following:—

"A story which, if true, is worthy of note comes from Soissons. It is affirmed that about a fortnight ago a young man was mesmerised by one of his friends in the presence of several persons. After some of the usual experiments with the magnetised the operator said, 'I forbid you to drink wine during the next fortnight.' The patient was then woke up by the magnetiser blowing in his face, and though he is no longer in his presence it is affirmed that he cannot carry a glass of wine to his lips. If the glass is filled with beer, water or anything else his arm will obey him and take it to his mouth, but if it contains wine his muscles are paralysed."

the *Madura Mail* exclaims—

"O, for a dozen of such mesmerisers among us in India, to neutralize the effect of the Abkari Policy of Government!"

Shall we confess that we are evil enough to be provoked by the virtuous sentiment into another kind of exclamation? namely—

O for a draught of vintage, that hath been  
Cool'd a long age in the deep-delved earth,  
Tasting of Flora and the country-green,  
Dance, and Provençal song, and sun-burnt mirth!  
O for a beaker full of the warm South,  
Full of the true, the blushful Hippocrene,  
With beaded bubbles winking at the brim,  
And purple-stained mouth:  
That I might drink, and leave the world unseen,  
And with thee fade away into the forest dim!

AND has it come to this!—Is this the market value of education and virtue—this the price in poor Bengal of all earthly and Heavenly qualifications?

"Wanted, two *Nacbs* for Mohamadabad and Kundahit, both in Santal Pargannah. Salary of each Post is Rs. 20. Candidates must have thorough knowledge of Zemindari business; they should also know surveying, and they must be of steady habits and never partake of any food that is interdicted by Hindoo religion. Security of Rs. 1,000 is required. Apply within 7 days, with copies of testimonials to the undersigned.—Raja Ramnandan Chakravarti, Bhadoor."

Here is a magnificent Raja indeed, to want stewards for his estate in the wilds of Sonthalia on Rs. 20 each, who must be thorough business men, and practical surveyors and men of steady habits and never take any food interdicted by Hindu religion, whatever that may mean, and, after all, by way of security for their conduct, deposit Rs. 1,000 each! Virtuous modest Raja! But what is his "Hindu religion"? Is it Vishnuism or Sivaism? Is it Saktism of the right hand or of the left? Or, is it Santhalism? Is it Chaitanyaism or is it Brahmoism in any of its several forms? Is it Antique Aryanism that allowed beef and wine, or Puranism that shunned stimulating drinks as poison and raised the cow to the rank of the highest goddess? Or, is it Tantrikism which pretends to make a religion of rank and dire Bacchanalism? Does it allow the eating of poultry as in Cashmere and in many another part of India? Does it permit the flesh of the wild boar which is esteemed among many tribes of Rajpoots and even some Brahmans nearer home, or the meat of the domesticated hog which is taken on the sly by others? Does it enjoin a Jain severity or an Ethnic Frontier latitudinarianism in diet? If the Raja's good Santhal tenantry are of the Hindu religion, then the accepted candidates for service in the Raj may always enjoy a liberal allowance of lizards, frogs and serpents.

THE King of Oudh is better since he has placed himself under the treatment of the Lucknow Hakcem, ABDOL ALI.

*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—Coughs, Influenza.—The soothing properties of these medicaments render them well worthy of trial in all diseases of the lungs. In common colds and influenza the Pills taken internally and the Ointment rubbed externally are exceedingly efficacious. When influenza is epidemic this treatment is easiest, safest, and surest. Holloway's Pills and Ointment purify the blood, remove all obstructions to its free circulation through the lungs, relieve the overgorged air tubes, and render respiration free without reducing the strength, irritating the nerves, or depressing the spirits. Such are the ready means of saving suffering when afflicted with cold, coughs, bronchitis, and other complaints by which so many are seriously and permanently afflicted in most countries.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1887.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR IN BEHAR.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY is not a brilliant man, but he is all the better for it, perhaps. Your "superior person" is commonly a danger in office as he is an unpleasant element in "society." If he be weak and self-conscious, he may develop into a polished Mahogany plank of a ruler as floating rafter for the Scribes and the Pharisees to sail in and sport upon, like him of Northern India. If he be lazy, he may degenerate into a veritable nuisance like the late Governor of Madras. If active, he may prove himself a firebrand like a late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. Genius is more often a drawback than an advantage in a constitutional functionary. It is not genius that is required in the government of a Province in a dependent Empire of a civilised Parliamentary Power, but ability—the ability of a cool sagacious head, a good heart, and experience. These intellectual and moral qualifications for successful rule, SIR STEUART BAYLEY possesses in an ample measure. He is an eminently safe and sound man. He does not startle you with rockets or fire-balloons, but there is no risk of a conflagration from him. He will not throw everything topsy turvy on the chance of carving out a great reputation for himself. He knows what is what, and is reasonable and sober. With firmness to steer clear of Party, he is prudent enough to avoid extremes. No wonder he succeeds. He has so far done well. Unless some as yet unsuspected influences get possession of him, or some incalculable events intervene, he will, we may be confident, get on swimmingly to the end of the chapter.

Such is the impression made on the observant by these five months of Sir STEUART BAYLEY'S administration. That impression has been confirmed and accentuated by his last utterance. He loves work and he has all a workman's instinct for making work and for making everything, likely and unlikely, to contribute to the desired end. Thus he winds up his Darbars with a practical discourse. He is not garrulous; for that matter, he is given to taciturnity and at Patna the other day he owned the soft impeachment. He dislikes fuss too, but as duty imposes on him ceremonies such as the holding of *Leves* and the conferring of honors, and as his position makes him the victim of the attentions of the people, attacks of deputations with addresses wherever he travels, he makes all these necessary evils or inconveniences subserve to business. He may almost be said to make constitutional use of the forms of Despotism, when, in the absence of parliamentary institutions, he avails himself of his Darbars to speak to the people and give explanations of affairs of state. Other Indian statesmen reserve such explanations for public dinners, but that practice has its obvious disadvantages, and is peculiarly unsuited to India. Post-prandial eloquence is apt to evaporate in idle compliments, and the severest political wisdom of a RICHELIEU or a MACHIAVELLI on a full stomach must labour under a suspicion. Hindus and Mussulmans certainly cannot feel confidence in discussions of public measures stimulated by copious libations of Rhenish wines. Nor must it be forgotten, as the Lieutenant-Governor pointed out at Patna, that such public dinners in India are not popular institutions; the people take no part in them,—nay, not even as mere spectators. No such objection attaches to the Darbars. To these all sections, if not classes,

are invited, European and native. They, not the small packed juries called Legislative Councils in India, are the true assemblies of the Notables—meetings of the Estates. Expositions of policy and administrative explanations are peculiarly well made to them. It would be highly desirable if all the Governors, local and imperial, were, by tacit understanding, to adopt this mode of communication. Then these empty and irksome shows, linked to such usefulness, would be invested with a new importance. It is thus that institutions arise and nations are unsuspectingly created.

Sir STEUART BAYLEY'S progress through Behar is an event of peculiar interest. It is certainly much more than the usual gubbernatorial Tour. Expected from the outset of the present régime, it had been much too long delayed. Behar is Sir STEUART'S own Province. There his best years were passed, in one capacity and another. He was the most famous Commissioner of Patna, as Baboo DOOR-GAGATI BANERJEE was the most efficient Assistant. There is mutual understanding between the two officials of the one part and the Province of the other. In the best sense, they were at home in Behar, and Behar reposed implicit faith in them. The Civil Servant remained in Patna as long as he chose and left it only to better himself on promotion to higher office. The fate of the Baboo was different. In an evil hour, he fell under the ill will of another Civil Servant then in power, and against the voice and to the inconvenience of a whole people, he was transferred to a distant and far less healthy district—to a Commissionership to which he was utterly new, where he could not possibly be of a tenth part of the use he was of at Patna—on the same pay. That is the difference between Covenanted and Uncovenanted, not to say European and Native! Be that as it may, might not Behar expect that he who knows the matter best, might again strengthen his own loved Commissionership by sending back its old and well-tried native administrator? During his brief acting Lieutenantcy, while Sir ASHLEY EDEN was at Simla on the Army Commission, Sir STEUART had a fine opportunity of showing himself to Behar at the grand Durbar held at Patna for investing the Maharaja of Durbhunga. And now that he is *pukka* Governor in his own right, with what feelings he enters his old Province and with what cordiality he is received! We say feelings, on purpose, for there is no exceptional pomp and circumstance in Sir STEUART'S progress. The heartiness of a whole peoples' greeting has, we see, at length infected those who had not much personal or sectional reason for feeling any enthusiasm on the occasion. This is a spectacle to enjoy. We truly felicitate Sir STEUART. May he always retain this confidence, and may he never abuse it.

#### AMENDMENT OF THE UNCOVENANTED PENSION CODE.

A LATE English mail brought welcome news to the Uncovenanted Service. The Secretary of State has approved the recommendations of the Government of India on the subject of pensions to this Service. The old rules which have been modified, though good enough as a first measure of relief to old civil officers and *employés*, came to be felt as unsuitable to the circumstances of later times. As the *Statesman* has justly observed, they did not meet the requirements of the day. Their rudeness, too, offended the refined justice we are accustomed to

expect from modern Governments. One-third and half pensions were, for instance, earned on production of medical certificate of incapacity for further work after a service of 15 and 25 years respectively. No consideration, however, was made for any service under fifteen years, of an adequate character. Nor for any service between fifteen and twenty-five years, with the absurd effect of making fifteen at par with sixteen or with any other figure up to twenty-four. Thus, a man with twenty-four years' service had to content himself with the same pension as a person having a service of fifteen years only. That is,  $15 \div 9 = 15$  still. We quite appreciate the difficulties besetting the subject. The line must be drawn somewhere, and while just liberality had to be shown to the claims of the Service, the object must be gained without imposing a too heavy burden on the finances of the State. The grant of pensions to men worn out in its service, is a distinction of the British Government and worthy of all praise. It is a liberality which differentiates the British from most Governments of the modern as well as the ancient world. It is worthy of its high principles and its superior wisdom. It is only in the difficulty of carrying out this intention that there may be any room for criticism. Lord Cross has now amended those practical details where they were found to work hardship, and thus laid an important branch of the Indian Service under a deep obligation.

The subject came up for consideration on the representation of the Uncovenanted Service itself. The old rules were promulgated at a time when the Service was necessarily in an inferior condition, and its merits were yet on trial. Time, however, had proved what it was capable of. The higher grades of the Uncovenanted Service had been tried in positions of trust and responsibility and had acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of Government. Step by step have they won their way upwards, till it has come to be speculated whether the time has not come for sweeping away the distinction between an Uncovenanted and a Covenanted Service. Nor have the rank and file of the Uncovenanted been behind-hand in asserting their value. It is the rank and file who bear the heat and burden of the work and whose obscure toils keep the whole machinery at work. With their merits tried and proved, naturally came the feeling whether in the matter of the recognition they received for their service, the old rules as to leave and pension had not deserved to be obsolete. Whether the gap between fifteen and twenty-five years' service was not too wide; whether the rule which limited to Rs. 4,000 a year the maximum pension open to the Uncovenanted Service, although the incumbents might have been drawing a monthly salary of Rs. 1,000 and have rendered twenty-five or thirty years' service, so as to be entitled to half pension, should not be liberalised; whether privilege leave should not be more liberally granted to the inferior officers of the Service; questions like these began to occupy their attention. And it was after long deliberation decided to petition Government on the subject. The movement easily became general, and there were memorials submitted from all parts of India, praying, among other things, that pensionary service should count from the age of 21 years; that furlough should count towards pension, that privilege leave should be granted to all servants of Government without being restricted to the higher ranks; that the maximum annual pension should be raised to Rs. 5,000 and that a graduated scale of

pensions should be introduced, starting after fifteen years' service with a pension of twenty-sixtieths of salary and rising by one-sixtieth for every additional year, till, on completion of twenty-five years, a man could retire voluntarily on a half-pension without the necessity of producing a medical certificate.

The Government of India, however, in submitting these proposals, of the Uncovenanted, suggested some modifications. The most important of them appear to us to be a decided improvement on what the Uncovenanted Service had ventured to ask for. The Governor-General in Council recommended that, instead of a pension of twenty sixtieths after fifteen years' service, pensions of ten-sixtieths should be granted after ten years' service rising by one-sixtieth for each additional year. The Secretary of State has adopted this scale, but he demurs to the voluntary retirement after a service of less than thirty years. The maximum pension has been raised to Rs. 5,000, and the grant of a month's privilege leave to all servants on less than Rs. 100 a month has also been re-affirmed. We say "re-affirmed" advisedly, for so far as the rules were concerned, the Uncovenanted Service was entitled to privilege leave of one month in the year rising to a cumulative period of 3 months, in thirty-three months, though it remained a dead letter in the Code—so true is the old maxim that laws are nothing without manners. We are not without misgivings, re-affirmation notwithstanding, whether the privilege will be of any more practical avail to the Service than before. The higher officers are jealous of the privilege and continue to make the Code a nullity in practice. It is something, nevertheless, that all the moral weight of the Secretary of State's orders has been ranged on the side of a more just and humane administration of the leave rules. As regards the pensions, we think the lowering of the graduated scale will be hailed with joy by those concerned. Some of the points referred to in the petition of the Uncovenanted Service, namely, those relating to furlough and the age of 21 years from which to count pensionary service, have been referred to the Public Service Commission. We have reasons to expect that the labors of this Commission will result in the acquisition by the Uncovenanted Service of another instalment of privileges and concessions. In fact, the success of that Commission can only be in proportion to the measure of elevation which this Service receives in the future in consequence of the Commission's Report.

### THE DECADENCE OF ENGLISH LITERATURE.

THIS is a large as well as an important subject. Yet with some degree of resolution it may, we believe, be approached in detail. On the present occasion, we purpose to confine ourselves to that section of English literature which has done so much for the people of England, not only in educating them but also in raising the moral tone of the nation. We here look at education from the point of view of its most modern apostles, that is, an imparting of knowledge purely mental, apart from the culture of those higher powers of the soul which reveals the laws which govern moral actions; or, in other words, a training of the affections, summed up in one's duty to God and one's duty to man. With this explanation, we come to the question, Is it true, then, that the English prose works of imagination of the present day manifest decay? It has become quite a commonplace of criticism lately that the English novel is going to the dogs; that the old writers are fast dying off, while the new writers are worth little or nothing; in short, that the art of fiction is now "played out," and that in future we must either live entirely without the Literature of Fiction or be dependent for amusement and edification upon

the legacies of past generations. A short while ago, an American writer, himself a popular novelist, made the startling proclamation that every story worth telling had long since been told, and that the authors of today could but tell them over again, and all that it was possible for them to do was to put new dresses on their characters, and make slight variations in the incidents of the tale. This bold prophet—this fearless exponent of the new truth—raised a perfect storm around his devoted head, for he roused the wrath and indignation of the scribblers of two continents. One can imagine how this poor wight fared among the legion of enraged opponents he had stirred up; nevertheless, he still lives, and still fearlessly proclaims his conviction.

Despite the melancholy testimony of this doughty American, let us look the question fairly in the face. A little consideration leads us to doubt, whether there is really any greater dearth of good novels at the present day than at any previous period of English literature. It is always so easy, and, therefore, so tempting, to decry the new candidates whose merits comparatively few people have yet recognised, and to extol the acknowledged masters in the craft, whom it is no proof of critical ability to have discovered. Everybody can see nowadays that Dickens and Thackeray were great artists; and almost every body can equally see that George Eliot was a real genius of the first water. But it is by no means every body who recognises the really admirable work of the many young writers who are now this very moment growing up in England, and who will doubtless be considered by the next generation just as undeniably great in their own way as we ourselves consider Dickens and Thackeray, Walter Scott and Lytton-Bulwer, Austen and Charlotte Brontë. We mention no names, because, one should never prophesy unless one knows; and no body ever knows beforehand the exact persons upon whom the stamp of public approbation will be finally set. It is so simple to pick out the great novelists of the past—so difficult to select the great novelists of the shadowy future. The human heart seems to be singularly conservative, it is so constant, even in its lamentations over the decadence of the present and the excellence of the past, from one generation to another. Why, less than half a century ago, people were saying, "Surely, you do not mean to put this young Mr. Tennyson, and this young Mr. Carlyle, and this young Mr. Dickens beside men like Scott and Southey, Wordsworth and Byron!"

But, if good story-tellers, as we firmly believe, still exist in numbers, is it true that all the stories have already been told, and that we can in future only go on feebly repeating them with slight variations? Surely, not. If, however, we could conceive it true of Europe, we can decidedly say it is not true as regards India. What a wide field this land presents to the English story-teller, teeming as it does with the traditions of its long past and its endless folklore! What a splendid harvest awaits ingathering! We almost despair of seeing the children of the soil reap the benefits of such toil. The long file of Indian graduates is present before us as a picture. Men of culture, who have as facile a command of the English language as of their mother-tongue; and the question naturally arises what have these men done towards working the rich veins of Indian story. Alas, the tale of their performances in this respect is almost *nil*!

Human life is, practically, infinitely varied and infinitely variable. Even in the newspapers—our morning and evening pabulum all the year round—we get from day to day innumerable fresh combinations of facts and incidents. The wakeful active fancy of the professional author, for ever exerting itself upon every new aspect of human existence, can never exhaust all the possible changes and chances of our ever-shifting personal histories, in which, as in a kaleidoscope, the same pattern hardly ever repeats itself, but the different pieces fall together at every throw into novel transformations and strange surprises. Each man's own life in reality contains within it abundant material for a round dozen of admirable romances. To be sure, if we go down to the very bottom of things, we may say that there are in the last resort perhaps hardly more than two central types of story—"A young man is in love with a young woman, and, after sundry adventures, they marry one another," or else "A young man is in love with a young woman, and owing to some adverse circumstances, they cannot or do not marry one another." There, in their

naked forms, are the skeletons or frameworks upon which nine out of ten among all the romances of the world are originally constructed. And yet what an infinite variety of incident and character is possible in working out these two central types—the happy and the tragic ending—out of which so many wonderful tales have been ultimately woven both in actual life and in the pages of fiction! The truth is that every day some totally new plot is occurring somewhere or other; some absolutely unused clue is working itself out in the daily relations of human beings, to serve as a basis for future novelists to thrill and delight whole generations of unborn readers.

We need not feel in the least afraid that there is going to be any failure in the supply of coming romance-writers; and we need not feel in the least afraid that they are going to find any difficulty in discovering new devices to interest and enthral us. Just as the world at large is always sure there will be no great men rising to take the place of those who are passing from our midst, so candid friends are always ready to assure the young novelist that he has exhausted himself with his first novel. He will never again be able to do so well; he has worked out his grand idea, used up his entire stock-in-trade, killed the goose that laid the golden eggs; and he will now have to retire perforce into private life, or tell the same story over and over again till every body is tired of it. But they are always both quite wrong. The world goes on producing fresh crops of young and vigorous minds, to make up for the old and worn-out brains that are going off the stage amid well-earned applause and honour; the writers go on producing fresh crops of admirable tales, that rather gain than lose in novelty and originality as the teller slowly improves in art and maturity. The English novel is not decadent. It has still before it a good future; and men in another half century will smile to themselves when they hear it said that in the days of the Eighties people seriously wondered whether romance had not really breathed its last with Reade and Trollope. We confidently expect that there will be novels and novel-readers—ay, and good ones, too, of both—in the year 2000, and, though we shall not then be here to see, we also believe that many names of young writers of both sexes, now at the beginning or in the middle of their career, will be well enrolled by public acclamation on the same list with all the great past-masters of the art of fiction in the English language. Writing as we do in India, we cannot close without expressing the hope that in this honoured list, the names of many Indian writers may be found. Would that our educated young men might buckle their armour on and test their mettle in a tourney with their English contemporaries in the field of literature!

L.

#### MR. GLADSTONE'S TEMPER.

##### MODERN BRITISH STATESMEN AND THEIR RELATIONS WITH ROYALTY.

VARIOUS as are Mr. GLADSTONE'S accomplishments and great as is his genius, suavity or even urbanity is not among his desirable possessions. Friends and foes alike complain of his manner. People fear to approach the people's WILLIAM. Under the circumstance, his success is a marvel. His personal popularity is in inverse ratio to his political. What a tribute to the intellect is the fact that the least loved of public men is, if not the most respected, certainly the greatest of Ministers. His prestige—the fruit of his commanding ability and inexhaustible resources—was never so demonstrated as in the present struggle. No other statesman would have ventured on the attempt to reconcile the British to surrender of the union with Ireland. Although he has thereby alienated many of his colleagues and supporters, the fact is due in a no small measure to accident. If it were not for the unfortunate murders of Lord W. CAVENDISH and Mr. BOURKE by the Irish fanatics, the Repeal which O'CONNELL agitated for in vain for a life-time, would have long since been a *fait accompli*. It is the horror of many English noblemen and gentlemen to have anything to say to the dynamitards and assassins that delays the fulfilment of the Nationalist dream. Mr. GLADSTONE has shown that he can talk over his countrymen to surrender all their prepossessions and prejudices. And yet, such is the paradox of human nature, this statesman is regarded, not entirely without reason, as a churl or very much of a bear.

A Society paper now relates an anecdote which presents Mr. GLADSTONE in a worse light than ever. It not only shows him wanting in

the ordinary courtesy of gentlemen towards ladies, but proves him capable of forgetting himself in the Presence of Royalty itself. In the following account, the Grand Old Man dwindles to a petty puppy—an attitudinising vulgar Radical:—

"The queen's dislike of Gladstone dates from 1868, and thereby hangs a very pretty tale. The bill for the disestablishment of the Irish Church, having passed through Parliament, only required the sovereign's mandate to become law. It chanced that Mr. Gladstone repaired to Windsor on the day that the bill was forwarded for signature, and was admitted to audience with the queen. As is well known, Her Majesty was averse to the essential principle of the bill, and while willing to concede reform, was strenuously opposed to the disestablishing of the Irish Church. She expressed this much to Mr. Gladstone, and as the Premier thought, showed great reluctance to affix her signature to the bill. In his eagerness Mr. Gladstone blurted out: 'But madam, you must sign.' The queen flushed, and rejoined with marked indignation, 'Sir, do you know who I am?' 'Yes, madam, the queen of England.' But does your Majesty know who I am? I am the people of England.' It is needless to say that the Queen summarily brought the audience to a close, and in a few curt words dismissed her prime minister, and bade him learn better manners. Since then she has scarcely made any pretence of concealing her personal antipathy to the grand old man."

That reminds one of the famous character of a statesman of the last century drawn by GRATTAN:—

"The secretary stood alone. Modern degeneracy had not reached him. Original and unaccommodating, the features of his character had the hardihood of antiquity; his august mind overawed majesty; and one of his sovereigns thought royalty so impaired in his presence that he conspired to remove him, in order to be relieved from his superiority. No state chicanery, no narrow systems of vicious politics, no idle contest for ministerial victories, sank him to the vulgar level of the great; but overbearing, persuasive, and impracticable, his object was England—his ambition was fame."

But there is no resemblance between the great CHATHAM and the great GLADSTONE; between the antique majesty, the rude natural strength, and the self-contained vitality of the one and the cultivated cleverness, the refined simplicity, and the ever-developing insight, and advancing *morale* of the other, still obscured by inordinate enthusiasm, if not by the intrusion of ambition—

That last infirmity of noble mind.

We are not without doubts of the truth of the anecdote in the *St. Stephen's Review*. Our incredulity is based on our knowledge of the two parties. It is difficult to believe that in these days the Queen and Premier of England should descend to a vulgar altercation. Mr. GLADSTONE has, no doubt, an unfortunate grasping temper, yet he could scarcely show it to a lady, and that the highest lady in the land and his sovereign and mistress. Queen VICTORIA also is too high and high-bred to resent the Minister's undue and perhaps repeated pressure in that bumptious style as inviting retort. She would probably in such a case, end the conference abruptly and chastise the enemy. Yet the atrocious *brusquerie* attributed to Mr. GLADSTONE is not quite without precedent in English history. A great Lord High Chancellor—keeper of the Sovereign Conscience—was if possible more outrageous, and that habitually. Mr. GLADSTONE is quite a lady's man—a polished Knight—compared with Lord THURLOW. Royalty had to put up with much from that terrible leader of the House of Lords. There is no record of any impertinence to a Queen or a Princess, but we have authentic anecdotes of his eccentricities in presence of male royalty. One or two may be mentioned.

"On the occasion of a public procession, the Prince, who had taken offence at something Thurlow had said or done, rudely stepped in before the Chancellor. Thurlow observed, 'Sir, you have done quite right: I represent your royal Father: Majesty walks last. Proceed, Sir.'

"At Brighton the Prince of Wales, living with a gay set of frivolous young men who displeased the ex-Chancellor much, asked him frequently to dinner, but always met with an excuse. At last, walking in front of the Pavilion in company with them, he met Lord Thurlow, and pressed him much to dine with him, saying, 'You must positively name a day.' Lord Thurlow, looking at the party who were with the Prince, said, 'If I must name a day or time, it shall be when your Royal Highness keeps better company.'

But there is an instance more to the point. Another great Chancellor—ELDON—used to relate how on one occasion when he went to get GEORGE III's assent to certain Acts, as he was reading over the titles of the different statutes, His Majesty interrupted him saying,

"You are not acting correctly; you should do one of two things, either bring me down the acts for my perusal, or say, as Thurlow once said to me on a like occasion: having read several, he stopped and said, 'It was all damned nonsense trying to make me understand them, and that I had better consent to them at once.'"

After such instances of the highest British statesmen at home, surely the British might excuse any little vagaries of the Mahratta Princes, knocked up by the incessant social demands of European civilization, and perhaps wounded by insult, however unwitting.



# REIS & RAYYET

'PRINCE & PEASANT'

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

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No. 295

## The Week.

THE Mehemandar knight errant of the India Office, Mr. Vesey Fitzgerald, has been made a Knight of the Indian Empire—for exhibiting a wonderful capacity for alienating its princes and people.

THE Imperial Institute does not find favor in Southern Africa, the Parliaments of Capetown and Natal will have none of it, and declined to vote any money for it.

PROFESSOR Wallace, of the Edinburgh University, has been and gone. He was out here to study the agricultural condition of this country—a vague and purposeless inquiry, or a wide and difficult one, not to be done in a trice. We hope he saw the apparition of the Indian cultivator. He will probably remember Rice and Curry better than Rice and Rayyet.

MR. P. MACFADYEN, of the firm of Arbuthnot and Co., Madras and London, is likely to become the advanced Liberal and Home Rule candidate for his native county of Argyleshire.

BEFORE Mr. Hewetson, the District Magistrate of Bangalore, Mr. Kearney, Editor of the *Daily Post*, applied for a summons against the Editor of the *Bangalore Spectator* for defamation. It was refused.

THE Pudukottah State having requested a trial survey and rough estimate for a line from Trichinopoly to Pudukottah, we learn that the survey has now been completed, and estimates submitted to the Dewan Regent. The line is about 31 miles long, and is estimated to cost 10½ lacs of rupees, exclusive of land, telegraph, and rolling stock, to work the line.

THE cry of insecurity in the North is echoed from the South. A Correspondent of the *Madras People's Friend* from Palghat complains with great bitterness:—

"Palghat has lately become the scene of dacoities and murders."

Again:—

"Dacoities in front of the Police station, murders close by the Taluk Magistrate's Court, strangling of children to death within a league's distance from the centre of Magistrate courts, have not created any excitement among the magistracy or Police men."

HERE is a discovery of a human being fossilising—morally:—

"We hear that last week, while the railway people were levelling a knoll spot a few miles from Talangun, a village on the Bezvada line, a stone temple was discovered. A few yards further, while levelling another mound, a stone trap-door was met with, which, when lifted up, disclosed a *yogee* whose finger nails were some 9 inches long, his hair being also 9 feet long. He opened his eyes, and asked whether *Prabu* is come. When the persons there questioned which *Prabu*, he said that he meant whether *Veera Vasuntha Railu* (who the Hindoos say is an incarnation of Vishnu that is to come to destroy the world) is come, and when the persons told him he had not, the *yogee*, calculating on his fingers, said that in seven years he will be born, and asked them to shut the trap-door again, so that he may remain inside till the *Prabu* comes."—*Deccan Herald*.

At any rate, there are Jogees yet among us. As a rule, we see only the matted-haired and ash-besmeared cheats.

THE District Board of Vizagapatam, at the instance of the General Duty Deputy Collector, obtained sanction of Government for the employment of twenty Native Doctors at Rs. 2 per mensem, for conducting the sale of cheap and reliable medicines through them to the people. We should like to hear more of the subject with a view to similar steps nearer home.

WE read:—

"At Marylebone Police Court, John Round, landlord of the Lord Chancellor public-house, North Street, Edgware Road, was summoned at the instance of the Inland Revenue for adulterating certain beer retailed at his house. —Mr. Powell, from the Solicitor's Department of the Inland Revenue, prosecuted, and Mr. Maitland represented the defendant. —It appeared from the evidence of Mr. Llewellyn, detective supervisor at Somerset House, that on May 23 a visit was paid to the defendant's premises. When samples were taken from the tap at the bar and the cask in the cellar, it was noticed that there was a difference in the quality. The officers, suspecting that something was wrong, made a search, and then found an ingenious contrivance in the shape of a double connection between the engine and the cask on tap. One of the connections led direct from the cask, while the other led into a kind of concealed chamber under the pavement. It was with some difficulty that the officers discovered this concealed chamber which was in a filthy condition. On examination a cask was discovered in this chamber, and the second connection referred to was found to lead to this cask, which contained a solution of sugar and water, and there was a contrivance for regulating the quantity of this solution entering the ale. The officers took samples of the liquor found in this cask, of the beer from the cellar, and that drawn in the bar, and on an analysis being made, it was found that the latter was adulterated to the extent of three gallons of the solution to the barrel of 36 gallons of beer. —Mr. Maitland said he could only plead guilty to the offence, and express the regret of the defendant, and of the trade generally, that such a system should have been found to exist. The pewterer who had invented the contrivance was the tempter, and the defendant had unfortunately yielded to the temptation, but he was happy to say that cases of this description were very rare. —Mr. Powell said he was instructed by the Board of Inland Revenue to press for the full penalty of £50 in this case, and he should also ask for full costs, for it was a most flagrant case. —Mr. Cooke imposed a fine of £50 and costs upon the defendant, and added that he hoped this matter would be reported to the licensing justices."

Is there no means to bring the Calcutta publicans to book for selling adulterated spirits?

THE Chief Magistrate has fined two Mahomedans Rs. 25 each for ill-treating a cow by beating it with a bamboo and breaking one of its legs. A compassionate Hindu having witnessed the treatment purchased the cow for Rs. 50 and in consultation with the S. P. C. A., instituted the proceedings. So the two Mahomedans only lost the lame cow. The Magistrate regretted that he had no power to flog the cruel wrong-doers.

THE latest report about Ayub Khan is that he had reached Afghanistan where he received a hot reception from the Ameer's troops. He is now again in Persian territory, and his re-arrest is expected.—The semi-official *Journal de St. Petersburg* denies that Russia was privy to the escape, she having no desire to embroil herself in the Afghan complication.

THE Law Member visits Rangoon to prepare himself for legislation for the new Chief Court there.

A GERMAN has developed photography to reproducing moving objects in successive positions.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

WE read :—

"In the *Lancet* Dr. Oliver speaks favorably of the effects of *kola* paste in the treatment of heart disease. Its efficiency, we are told, as a nervine tonic has long been recognised in those places where the fruit abounds. By the inhabitants of such it is employed as an antidote to alcohol; men who are so intoxicated as to be rendered incapable of walking straight are said to become sober, and recover their normal gait from within half an hour to one hour after taking the drug."

Nor is this the first time that we read of the wonderful *kola*. If its virtues were not mere "guy," surely it would by this have been introduced into practice. It is certainly worth a trial. Both publicans and sinners are interested in its use.

THE Raja of Chatarpore having attained majority, he was, on the 29th August, invested with direct authority at a durbar held by the Political Agent.

THE 1st Brigade North Irish Division, R. A., celebrated the anniversary of the battle of Candahar by a ball at Colaba, Bombay.

HIS health is failing Kaiser William. The emperor will not be able to attend the usual next autumn manoeuvres of the German army at Königsberg.

THE Theatre at Exeter has been burnt by fire during a performance, with heavy loss of lives. The "gods" suffered most.

THE Morris Memorial Committee have decided upon a Technical College. This is in keeping with the expressed wishes of the present Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces. He would abolish Arts Colleges, for he does not want superfluous B. A.s, to encourage professional learning.

HIS Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught has rejoined his command. He arrived at Bombay on the 5th and started the same evening for Poona.

THEY will celebrate at Kieff the 200th anniversary of the introduction of Christianity into Russia.

THE Raja of Vencatagiri has taken in as his Dewan Mr. S. Narayana-swamy Chettiar, a pleader of Nellore.

ACCORDING to the *Afghan Blue book* recently published, Russia has relinquished 26¼ square miles of cultivation, 707 miles of waste, 19 wells, 13,600 population, and revenue to the extent of £1,100, while the Afghans have restored 6¼ miles of cultivation, 818 miles waste, one well, no population, and no revenue.

HERE is as good a story as is to be met with in any book :—

"The *Corriere del Mattino* vouches for the authenticity of the following anecdote of Signor Depretis illustrating the mildness of that statesman's character. He used to snore loudly. Once when at Casale he lodged at the Rosa Rossa, a second-rate inn. An ex-official, who was at Casale for the purpose of applying for employment, had a room next to that occupied by the Minister. Being disturbed during the night by the loud snoring of his neighbour, he first threw his boots at the wall, and then proceeded to complain in rather insolent terms, loud enough to penetrate into the next room. Signor Depretis apologised, and, in order to be no longer a disturbance, lighted his candle and began to read a book. The next morning the Minister sent a waiter to make his excuses to his neighbour. 'Who is the beast?' asked the ex-official. 'The "beast" is the Minister, Signor Depretis,' replied the waiter. The poor ex-official almost had an apoplectic fit. He, in turn, sent innumerable excuses to Signor Depretis who, receiving him afterwards, told him that he should be employed as he desired, 'more especially,' he continued, 'because last night you caused me to read something I had never an opportunity of reading before.' 'What was it, may I ask?' 'The "Dame aux Camelias"'," replied the Minister."—*Daily News* (London.)

M. FARINE, *Chef de Service* of Chandernagore, left that station for good on the 5th current, and M. Alf. Le Fancheur acts for him till the arrival of his successor. M. Daclin-Sibour, Secretary to the Home Department in Pondicherry, has been nominated *Chef de Service* of Chandernagore in the place of M. Farine.

During his administration, M. Farine succeeded in winning the love and respect of the people of the dependency. He was a considerate

and zealous officer, and displayed tact and moderation in dealing with the difficult questions affecting the welfare of those committed to his charge. His departure has, therefore, evoked a sentiment of profound sadness in the station.

MR. CLIFFORD LLOYD is not to come to Ceylon. Good.

THE Marine Court of Enquiry on the *Sir John Lawrence* disaster have come to the following conclusion :—

1. That the *Sir John Lawrence* foundered at sea, with all hands, probably between the Ridge Light and Palmyras Point, on or about the 25th May, 1887.
2. That Captain Irving was guilty of fool-hardiness, almost amounting to criminality, in putting out to sea in the face of the weather.
3. That the vessel, with the exception of those thin plutes, was otherwise seaworthy when she put to sea on her last voyage.
4. That she carried many more than her proper complement of passengers on the 25th May, but that such overcrowding did little to hasten the disaster which befel her.
5. That the method of surveying adopted under the auspices of the Port Commissioners is extremely unsatisfactory, and stands in urgent need of thorough reform.
6. That the Storm Signal Code can be amended with advantage.
7. That the Andaman Islands should be connected with the mainland by cable.
8. That the cable already existing between Diamond Island and Bassein should be over-hauled and placed in a state of thorough repair.

THE French physician Martineau recommends carbonate of lithia and arseniate of soda in aerated water, without any other drinks, as a sure remedy for diabetes. The mention of the disease reminds us of certain interrogatories circulated by Dr. K. D. Ghose with a view to the prevention thereof in this country. How far has he progressed in his enquiry?

IT is said that "various opinions are held as to the healthfulness of drinking water in the morning before eating." Dr. DEAUF, a German, says :—

"When water is taken into the full or partly full stomach it does not mingle with the food, as we are generally taught, but passes along quickly between the food and the lesser curvature, towards the pylorus, through which it passes into the intestine. The secretion of mucus by the lining membrane is constant, and during the night a considerable amount accumulates in the stomach, some of its liquid portion is absorbed, and that which remains is thick and tenacious. If food is taken into the stomach when in this condition, it becomes coated with this mucus, and the secretion of the gastric juice and its action are delayed. These facts show the value of a goblet of water before breakfast. This washes out the tenacious mucus, and stimulates the gastric glands to secretion. In old or feeble persons water should not be taken cold, but it may be with great advantage then taken warm or hot. This removal of the accumulated mucus from the stomach is probably one of the reasons why taking soup at the beginning of a meal has always been found so beneficial."

THERE seems to be mischief brewing in the South. Certainly there is cause for uneasiness in the following account of the Mahomedan feeling in Cuddapa, taken from the columns of the *People's Friend* of Madras :—

"The Mahomedans have defied authority and insisted on burying their dead from cholera in the old internment ground situated in the centre of the town. A prohibition of such burials was made four years ago, but the order was not hitherto enforced. A year ago, however, a new site was selected, cleared and sanctioned to be the future burial place of persons dying from cholera. A fatal case having occurred the other day and some the following days, the Mahomedans refused to obey orders and buried the corpses in the old burial ground. The Magistracy and Police did their best to convince the fanatics, but without avail. Persuasion, coaxing advice, were all treated with contempt and some regarded the attempt as the outcome of cowardice. The internments were allowed, to avoid a breach of the peace, but several recalcitrant Mahomedans were spotted and are now being tried for having set the law at defiance."

We hope the officials will have the tact and firmness to deal with the situation.

THEY have accomplished an engineering feat in America—by shifting *en masse* an iron railway bridge, weighing 1,600 tons, on the Pennsylvania Railway :—

"The bridge, which crosses the Conemaugh River at Johnstown, Pennsylvania, was moved down the river about 75 feet on June 14, to make room for the erection of a new stone arch bridge. The bridge is of iron, and is almost 250 feet in length. When the building of the new bridge was decided on some time ago, the question of how to get trains across the river while the work was in progress caused a good deal of discussion. Engineers generally believed that the bridge was too big to be successfully moved. One engineer was found, however,

who was willing to undertake the task, and to sign a contract not to delay regular trains more than a few hours. The contract was made, and the engineer went to work. Trestles were built on each side of the river from the bridge 75 feet down; rails were laid along the trestles, and the bridge itself was placed on tracks. Then everything was ready for the final move. Shortly after noon the great structure started on its journey. Its great length made its progress very slow, and it was not until ten o'clock at night that it finally rested on its new foundations. The tracks on each side were quickly changed to suit the new location, and trains commenced crossing as usual."—*Iron*.

At the Cuddapa Sessions, four natives were tried for murder and having been convicted of the offence, were sentenced to transportation for life. The prisoners who were poor shepherds, were asleep in their sheepfold, when one of them, hearing a noise, awoke and found the deceased running off with a sheep. He at once gave the alarm and then all the four ran after the deceased and, having succeeded in catching him, they beat him with sticks and stones so much so that he died not long afterwards. On the case coming up before the High Court, on appeal, although confirming the sentence, it sent up the papers to Government with a recommendation for reduction of the sentence to five years' rigorous imprisonment. The Governor in Council has accepted the recommendation and reduced the sentence accordingly.

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We read in the *Hindoo Patriot* :—

"The old controversy of reason or instinct has been revived again by the remarkable account of a dog's proceedings sent to the *Times* by the secretary of the King's College Hospital. The dog, a collie, had cut its foot on a piece of glass, and thereupon made straight tracks, in company with two terrier friends, for the hospital door. Upon arrival the friends barked until they had attracted the porter's attention, and, when their object was achieved, retired, leaving the collie to the tender mercies of the authorities, who duly bound him up and bandaged him. The question at once arises, 'How did the dogs know that the hospital was the proper place to go in the circumstances?' There is no evidence that any one of them had ever been there before, as in the case of the dog who, having been treated by a doctor for a broken leg, afterwards brought a friend who was similarly afflicted. It may be, though that is a very prosaic conclusion, that it was entirely accidental, though even then the barking is a curious coincidence; but we prefer to believe that it was an extra development of the sixth sense exhibited by the collie who, having seen sick people carried into the hospital (he lived hard by), knew that that was the proper place to go to, and intimated as much to his friends. If only Sir John Lubbock, who has taught his dog to read, could teach this collie to speak."

What a prospect that for the orators among the featherless bipeds! The canine speakers will outbark the most famous human masters of cynic or saturnine eloquence.

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THE Hon. Dvaram Jethum, member of the Legislative Council, Bombay, died on the 22nd August at 10 a. m., at Hyderabad, Sind, his native place. He was the leading citizen, and his loss is universally felt. Not only were the courts, schools and shops in the town closed, but even some of the European merchants stopped work on the 23rd instant by way of respect to his memory.

## Editorial Notes.

WHATEVER may be its shortcomings, in regard to law or justice, the Madras High Court's orthodoxy can no longer be suspected. That is of the stern Presbyterian type. The Court has just vindicated its zeal for the Faith in an unmistakable, if rather extraordinary, way. It has set aside judicial proceedings held on the Sabbath.

THE Bellary People's Association have taken an extraordinary and bold step. In their address to the Governor when he visited their town, they complained of the corruption of the Native officials, contrasting with it the purity of the European element. At a private interview with His Excellency, certain revenue and judicial officers were named. Lord Conemara has promised a searching inquiry.

A GYA letter dated the 6th instant, says :—

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal came and went as all good people do and we are just about as happy as after a good romp at the Chatar fair. A fortnight before the expected visit, the town was up and doing with all manner of preparations and on meeting a friend you might have staked your life, you would be greeted with *Lat Sahib kub ayga*.

As to receptions, addresses, parties and dinners, we followed suit with the other districts. There was the Collector's Evening Party or

the day of his Honor's arrival. *Apropos* of the party, it was a first-rater of its kind, more especially as the greater part of it consisted of the nobility and the gentry of the District. I almost fancied, I was at one of Miss Manning's soirées. There was the dinner party at the charming Bungalow of Bibu Ran Bahadur, a younger son of the House of Tekari. The dining room was sumptuously got up. The dinner was a rattling good one and champagne corks were flying about like Russian gunshots at Afghan boundary. By way of entertainment, our generous host had a Bengali Theatrical Company up for the occasion and a good display of fireworks, which, however, I am sorry to say the untimely rain damped a bit. One would wonder I don't say anything about the reception, but as I didn't go to it, seeing that the Reception Committee had, while inviting the whole lot, reserved the place of reception for a favoured few, I had better leave it unsaid.

THE long talked of Periar project promises to bud forth into reality at last. It would seem that the persistent advocacy of its claims by the Government of Madras has had the desired effect on the Supreme Government. According to the *Madras Standard*, a lac and a half of rupees have been sanctioned for acquiring the land required and collecting materials. According to the *Madura Mail*, five lacs have been sanctioned for the work this year. There is no doubt that Colonel Pennycuik of the Royal Engineers, who has spent so many years in the study of the subject and maturing plans, has gone to the spot to commence operations. He arrived at Madura on the 14th August, being received at the railway station by the Madura Club. He has since gone to the Periar. This great public work when completed will be one of the boons granted by the unspeakable Mountstuart Grant Duff. The unamiable old gentleman is not so bad as he is usually painted.

THEY order matters differently, if not better, in the South. On the 25th August, before a full bench of the Madras Small Cause Court, Mr. Reddy Branson, on behalf of the bar, represented to the Court that suitors are put to good deal of expense and trouble by taking out subpoena each time a case is adjourned. The Judges, after hearing Mr. Reddy Branson, directed that for the future witnesses are bound to appear on the subpoena to all the adjourned dates. They also ruled that witnesses are at liberty to claim batta for the number of days they appear on the subpoena and can, unless paid, refuse to give evidence. We hardly understand all this. Is the procedure in the Madras Small Cause Court different from the ordinary Civil Procedure established by law throughout the empire? How so? And will witnesses be bound by the mere dictum of the Judges? Here the subpoenas expressly direct that witnesses are to attend from day to day &c., and the forms are prescribed by law.

THE Thakore Sahab of Gondal arrived on August 22, at Jaspur by mail train under a salute of fog signals, and was received on the platform by his Dewan, Mr. Bezoojee, and the chairman of the Municipality, the medical officer and other officers, at the head of the respectable inhabitants of Dhorajee. The address nuisance has penetrated to the native states, and will, we expect, be done to death there. An address was read to the returned Chief, and duly presented in a beautiful casket. His Highness' secretary, Mr. Dave, replied for him. The Thakore Sahab was in good spirits and had a few minutes' cheerful conversation with the official and non-official gentlemen and then left for his capital in a state carriage.

A JUDICIAL horror has lately been enacted at the capital of Afghanistan. The leader of the Herat Revolt, Timoor Shah Khan, who had been sent a prisoner to Cabul, was, after a few days' confinement, executed on the 13th July. That is no great matter in those parts. Nor is there anything noticeable in the matter, but the Anglo-Indian Press thinks the Ameer has gone out of his way in the mode of death he chose for his victim, and society has been shocked :—

"The mode of execution was one which the Amir favours, and which was popular among Jews long past. Taimur was taken out into a public place and there after his beard had been plucked out, was stoned to death by the thief officers of the Army in Kabul. Parwana Khan, as Kotwal of the city, cast the first stone. The story is that Taimur who was a man of exceptionally powerful build, did not die at once, though stones were piled upon him in a large heap. Two days after the occurrence, the sentry on duty over the ghastly cairn saw a movement among the stones, and on stooping down to examine them, he heard the voice of Taimur beseeching him to kill him. 'Oh, creature of God.

come and kill me, that I may be released from this torment,' were the words the unfortunate man gave utterance to. The sentry reported the matter to his officer, and the Amir on hearing of the occurrence, ordered Taimur to be killed outright."

That is a ghastly story. What a pity that a brave man should come to such a miserable end in a country where courage and prowess are appreciated. But there was no help for the Ameer. As M. Lesseps long since said to the late Mr. Senior, speaking in defence of the sanguinary severities of the Egyptian Government, fear is the only principle of human nature on which Asiatic despots can rely in managing their rude subjects and, we may add, neighbours. Where there is no honor, there can be no humanity. Remorse would be wasted upon barbarians. It is in Afghanistan as in Nepal. Once a foe, always a foe. Who can afford to trust? The Ameer could not, by any possibility, convert Timoor Shah into a good subject. As for the mode of execution, it is a recognised thing in the Mahomedan Code, and the writers who talk of the old Jews in the connection, do not show their knowledge.

A MADRAS Chetty, Mahadev by name, fed about three thousand poor people at Chengalanee Pulliar Covil, Black Town, on the 26th Aug., on the occasion of his nephew's marriage, and on the following day "he presented an equal number of poor people with cloths and money."

Advertising of this sort of charity is a new feature in Oriental life. Of course, many of the accounts published are exaggerations. We hope there is more truth in this Southern one than is usually to be found in our Northern parts. Yet even here there are characteristic touches. Thus the final word of the last para, is deliciously vague. Money may be anything, from a cowrie to a crown, a pice to a pagoda. Surely, the man who furnished the account could tell the amount of coin distributed if he was not afraid of spoiling the effect of his tale of benevolence.

It is comforting to notice how the death of M. Katkoff, the late redoubtable Editor of the *Moscow Gazette*, has called forth universal sympathy. The civilized world has vied with the country of his birth in sorrowing for the deceased. In France, the Journalists Associations have unanimously resolved in a meeting to send a wreath to his funeral. The telegram, which they have transmitted to the *Moscow Gazette*, is significant. It is—"We, the associations of the French Press," at a full meeting and brought into unity of feeling by our deep grief, beg to assure our brethren of the *Moscow Gazette* we mourn with them, and in token thereof send a wreath of the colours of our national flag to be laid on the grave of the lamented Michael Katkoff, who was an honour and a bright light of Slav journalism, and whose ardent patriotism did not exclude the warmest sympathy for France."

M. Katkoff was a unique journalist. The leader of the Fourth Estate in Russia, he exerted an almost commanding influence over the journalism of the whole continent. Unlike other Editors of great organs of public opinion, whose individuality was merged in the general policy of their papers, he stamped his own peculiar individuality on his paper. The people looked upon the *Moscow Gazette* as M. Katkoff himself. His influence over the domestic and foreign policy of his country was unbounded. The sacred Tsar—Autocrat of all the Russias himself sought his counsel on difficult state affairs. Held in almost abject deference by his sovereigns, he was the very bug-bear of statesmen. He made and unmade ministries. On vital questions, the policy of Russia was, essentially, his policy. The death of such a man at a stirring time like the present, is no doubt a calamity to Russia.

ON the death of M. Katkoff, the Czar telegraphed to his widow thus:—

"With all true Russians I also deeply deplore your and our loss. The powerful voice of your late husband, who was imbued with fervid love for his country, was able to sustain the national sentiment, the influence, and sound sense of Russia in times of gloom. Russia and we ourselves do not forget his services, and all unite with you in one unanimous supplication for the repose of his soul."

EARLY in the week we received the following telegram from Dacca:—

Dacca students have hardly any reasonable complaint against the "Star Theatre." Some misguided youths dissuaded people going to the Theatre last Wednesday night. All disturbances suppressed by authorities, two ringleaders, teachers local school, made special constables, section 17 Act V 1861. Thanks to District Police Superintendent Mr. Dalrymple Clarke for arrangements to maintain peace. No case against the Theatre company. Crowded house last night, upwards of 200

students present, very successful performance. Ensuing Monday patronage night of District Judge.

THERE never was much love lost between the members of the Anglo-Indian Press. When one touch of lucre makes them kin, they of course pull well together, as the *Pioneer*, the *Civil and Military Gazette*, and the *Sind Gazette* do now, and the *Pioneer* and the *Englishman* did formerly. At one time, the last two leading journals simultaneously pledged themselves to Hunterian spelling reform. In those days they echoed each other. But subsequently, whether from a change in the proprietary or from some other cause, certain it is that a change came over the spirit of their dreams. In place of habitual courtesies and appreciation, there were constant sneering and contempt. They would not content themselves with the "cut" social, but must enjoy the pleasure of inflicting the cut corporeal as it were. They fought each other in regular style. Last year, they whipped one another in the streets. They not only proved each other incompetent and vicious, but accused one another of overt literary immorality. At length, they were fairly exhausted and there was a pause. But unless there has again been any secret influence making for peace, the truce may be broken any day. The Anglo-Indian ring has not been closed. This year the combat is between the *Englishman* and the *Indian Daily News*. These two valiant neighbours are exhibiting before the world the canine pugnacity of their race. They are whacking each other in proper style, but with whatever weapon comes to hand. They evidently like the game and they are foemen worthy of each other's steel. The native papers sometimes complain of the attacks of the Anglo-Indian Press. They may now take heart, seeing how the European journals tear each other. No wars so merciless as civil wars! no hate so bitter as cousinly hate! It is lucky perhaps that natives could not possibly give dire offence to Europeans, for few native journals could stand anything like this tremendous onslaught of the *Daily News* on the *Englishman*:—

"A young native gentleman asked us to be allowed to take a seat in our office for a short time as he did not desire to remain idle, and would like to pass some time in a newspaper office. We gave him a seat in the office accordingly, without any engagement whatever, and he was free to come or stay away just as it might suit him. The *Englishman* has represented this simple fact as the paper having a Bengalee Baboo for joint editor. Of course, his object is to disparage and discredit the paper, an object in which he will fail, except, perhaps, among the more disreputable of his own clientele. He knows, as this paper announces daily, that there is one sole editor of the paper. As to the 'Bengalee Baboo' at whom the *Englishman* scoffs, we have a challenge to make. He is only a youth scarcely out of his teens; and yet we undertake that he shall compete with the editor of the *Englishman* in either or both of two things. Both of them shall be locked up in a room with nothing but writing materials, and they shall be required to write three short essays on three given subjects, to be named by any three impartial persons, who shall be judges; and the one who writes the best two out of the three essays shall be deemed the winner. Or if the editor of the *Englishman* prefers to try his oratorical powers three speeches in public may be substituted on the like terms. The prize to be contested for to be Rs. 100 on each of the three events, and to be paid by the loser to any public charity. Now, if the *Englishman* is not prepared to accept this fair challenge, he should cease to sneer at a Bengalee Baboo, and to try to defame a contemporary. Of course, we are obliged to our contemporary for his gratuitous advertisements and his interest in our staff. And not liking to be outdone in generosity, and to gratify his laudable curiosity as to our staff, we return the favour in a negative sort of way which he can apply as it suits him. There has never yet been any member of the staff of this paper since it became a private property who had to run away from his creditors. There has not been one who, though married, seduced the assistants of neighbouring tradesmen's establishments, and had to run away from the country. There has never been one who was a constant contributor to the *Small Cause Court Gazette*. There has been only one drunken temporary editor, and he came from the *Englishman* Office. There has never been one on the staff who could not respond to the toast of the Press without notice. There has never been on the staff of this paper any graduate of the Andamance University, or—but we stop for the present, and only say that whoever may contribute to the paper, so long as it is under the present editorial charge, it will never be less English, while it will be more fair than the *Englishman*, and will never stoop to the discreditable meanness of falsehood, either in the vain hope of injuring a rival by slander, or to sneer at a youth who aspires to an honourable position, and who is as English in feeling as the *Englishman* himself. We say this without intending to imply that that is the highest ideal."

THE Royal Botanic Garden at Sibpore has entered upon its hundredth year of existence. Why not celebrate its centenary? These scientific gardens are among the best institutions of the present régime. After all, the British, if they ever leave India, will leave for memorials of their connection something better than empty beer bottles. It is not every race or every age to which is given to build. The British have done better

—they have planted. Mogul might astonish by magnificence—Assyrian might juggle with the trick of hanging gardens—but the *jardins de plants* of Shaharunpore and Calcutta are a far more substantial and genuine boon, and it is only an enlightened European Power that could establish such museums of the miracle of trees and flowers and shrubs. It is a pity the people do not make the most of these vast and costly collections. They are hardly aware of their existence. Nor are they encouraged to make their acquaintance of them. The Government should take the matter up in the Educational Department. The Schools and Colleges in the neighbourhood of Calcutta ought to send their boys and masters to holiday-make and acquire knowledge at the Sibpore Garden. Those at a distance too ought to be encouraged. The effect will be good not only educationally but also politically.

THE Marine Court have reported on the *Sir John Lawrence* disaster. Mr. Reilly was good enough to read portions of the Report to Government at the Court room on Thursday. We give the conclusions elsewhere. We hope Government will publish the full text. The length of the investigation requires complete publication of the proceedings. The vessel is pronounced not unseaworthy on her fatal voyage and the Court find that she had more passengers than the license allowed, but that that excess was not much. We are not sure that the number in the license was the proper number of passengers for her capacity or available space. The loss is attributed to the almost criminal foolhardiness of the Captain.

The *Englishman* properly takes the native community, as represented by its press, to task for the indifference with which it looked on from day to day, without being of any assistance to the Court to arrive at the truth. Knowing people kept away, and sufferers by the loss accepted it as fixed fate—thus exemplifying the difference between the East and the West. This calm resignation enhances the difficulty of Government—which is left to think and act for us. The one-day appearance of a Baboo Counsel and a Baboo Attorney to assist at the enquiry on behalf of the natives, only confirms the hopelessness of the Baboo cause.

WE may here mention that after the Court's finding, Mr. Bushby had tendered resignation of his office to the Port Commissioners, but the latter did not feel themselves justified in accepting it, pending the orders of Government on the Report of the Court. Till then we, too, must reserve our final deliberate comments.

WE regret to find that our esteemed friend the Hon'ble Dr. Sircar has again embroiled himself with his countrymen by his fatal fluency. A meeting was held on last Sunday, at the Science Association, at which the Doctor presided, for the hearing of a paper on the subject of the day—the proper time for marriage—by the well-known poet and publicist, Babu Rabindra Nath Tagore. The meeting was a move by the reformers who were forced to it by the onesided character of the demonstration got up at the late Maharaja Komul Krishna's house and, above all, by the despotism exercised by another famous Doctor who occupied the chair on the occasion. At last Sunday's meeting, there was no attempt at suppression of any side of the controversy, thanks to the chair. There was, however, little disposition to take advantage of the *carte blanche*. The free lances of the orthodox party were conspicuous by their absence, while the more serious-minded seemed either to be somewhat convinced by the argument of Babu Tagore or to catch the more liberal and indeed rational spirit of the majority. Principal Nyaratna, who had been one of the speakers at Sobhabazar, avowed himself here a thorough reformer and no respecter of Manu or Yajnyavalkya. Of this circumstance, capital was adroitly made for the cause of reform by a remarkable excellent speaker of the Neo-Progressive sect, Babu Anand Chunder Mitra. Another missionary of

the same church, who is one of our most impassioned Bengali orators, Babu Bepin Chunder Pal, also addressed the meeting, but without the full effect he might have produced, in consequence of the demonstration of impatience with which he was greeted by a part of the audience before he had opened his lips. But the discourse of Babu Tagore needed little support to bolster up its argument, as it left little room for adverse comment from the conservatives. Gracefully written, enlivened at every step by wit and humour, it was a calm and moderate statement of facts and a well-reasoned discussion of the points at issue. All the more is the regret that the Hon'ble chairman should have marred the happiness of the proceedings by a violent diatribe at the top of his voice, against the orthodox pretensions of his countrymen. He outkalinathed Kalinath in asserting and reiterating with violent emphasis that there were no Hindus at all—no, not even a percentage. The fact is, that the doctor is an impulsive orator, and he was evidently not at home on the extra-scientific bearings of the subject or in the language.

THE approach of the Doorga Pooja Festival has plunged the Hindu world in the meshes of more than one theological controversy. The first question was as to the chronology of the supreme moment of worship when the goddess is believed to make her appearance in the symbol set up for visible homage. Different Hindu astronomers at different centres—Calcutta, Nuddea, Benares, &c.—have arrived at different conclusions from their several calculations. Before this point has been settled, a still more revolutionary question has been started, which, if allowed, will have the effect of postponing the whole Pooja for a period of several weeks—to the infinite derangement of the Hindu world in these Provinces and the inconvenience of other worlds in connection with it. The point has been raised, it is said, by Lala Bun Behari Kapoor, who has lately shown such respect for Hindu orthodoxy by procuring his son's adoption, and it has appropriately been taken up Maharaja Jotindro Mohun Tagore and Mahamahopadhyaya Mohesh Chunder Nyaratna.

THERE is consternation among the Clerks. The natives employed in the banks and merchants' offices are in alarm at the prospect of deprivation of their religious holiday. The Bank of Bengal establishment are already doomed, the Secretary having, by order of the Directors, notified that there will be a close holiday of four days only at the bank. The "Bengal" Baboos owe their misfortune to their own past master. The late Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Hardie, was an excellent man, able and kind-hearted, but an inveterate ideologue. His mind was as full of crotchets as the Abbé Sicjes' pockets were full of constitutions. And he had the besetting sin of reformers—fanaticism. The fate of the far larger number of the *employés* in the banking and mercantile world in general, is hanging in the balance. If their employers follow in the wake of the Bank of Bengal, all is over with them. We hope they will have the independence to act on their own calm judgment and better instincts. If they would not take that trouble of that responsibility, there is the good example of the Government of the country for their guidance. The Indian Government does not do these things in haste and private men would do well to respect its well-considered decision. Above all, the mercantile community have their own experience in the matter to give them good guidance. Relying on their own knowledge and judgment, they had long resisted the suggestion of Mr. Hardie, but that persistent man left no stone unturned to secure his end and one by one they all submitted to his influence. At last, all the bankers and merchants seemed to conspire against the Doorga Pooja Vacation and mulet it of what they regarded as its superfluous holiday. At any rate, for once, there was in Calcutta the spectacle of all the places of business in the city being open throughout the period with the exception of four or five days. But it was all in vain. It was a hopeless struggle—a war against Nature and the nation. Though the banks and other offices were ready for work, there was no work for them. The world of business had taken holiday, and if some few were singular, it was their misfortune. After that experience, only cynical indifference to the happiness of inferiors or criminal thoughtlessness would continue to open office during the national festival.

• We have great hope of the Manager of the French Bank taking the lead against the wilful practice bequeathed by Mr. Hardie to the Bank of Bengal. Mr. Payn unites the better qualities of the British citizen and the born Frenchman. He has a heart as well as a head, courage as well as sensibility and sympathy. And he has 1000

**Holloway's Pills.**—No Mystery.—Whenever the blood is impure or the general health is impaired the human body is predisposed to attacks of any prevailing epidemic. The first indications of faulty action, the first sensations of deranged or diminished power, should be rectified by these purifying Pills, which will cleanse all corrupt and reduce all erring functions to order. These Pills counteract the subtle poisons in decaying animal or vegetable matter, and remove all tendency to bowel complaints, biliousness, and a host of annoying symptoms arising from foul stomachs. The fruit season is especially prone to produce irritation of the bowels and disorders of the digestive organs; both of which dangerous conditions can be completely removed by Holloway's corrective medicines.



in the country so as to understand the importance of the Doorja Poojah in the national economy.

The Government clerks, if they still enjoy their Great Festival, have a grievance of their own. They are concerned about the wherewithal to pay their way during this expensive Festival. In consequence of a ruling of the Financial Department, their pay for the month is in jeopardy—for the moment. Towards the end of last year or at the beginning of this, a brief circular was handed round the several offices to this effect, namely:—

“If the first six days of a month are public holidays on which salaries are not disbursed at the Treasury, the Local Government may, if it thinks fit, direct the payments of establishment bills (but not of salaries of gazetted officers) on the last open day before the said holidays.”

This change in the official code was scarcely noticed at the time, but it has now shown its teeth. The offices close after work on the 20th September and reopen on the 3rd October. It is of the utmost importance to the native clerks that they should get their pay before the Poojahs. Here, this rule is in the way. It is true that it leaves the Local Government free in its discretion, but how are inferior assistants, not being gazetted officers, to move the Lieutenant-Governor? The *employes* in the Lieutenant-Governor's own Secretariat may escape the adverse operation of the rule through the good offices of the Secretary and Under-Secretaries. But who will intercede for the other departments? We appeal to the Lieutenant-Governor himself. He has already proved a friend to these poor men by saving them their Pooja when it was in danger during his brief acting tenure. He may well be expected to sympathise with them in their present distress.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1887.

### THE SICK KING.

THE King of Oude's health continues to cause anxiety. The improvement reported last week has vanished this week. His Majesty is so weak that he is almost confined to his bed, and if he has occasion to go to the next room he has to be supported and carried thither. But what chiefly disheartens his well-wishers is that he does not eat at all. This has been going on some three or four months and has gradually weakened the patient.

While the King is in this state, anything or nothing is being done in his name. There is no check though a high British officer is supposed to take care of the King. There is nobody to attend to His Majesty's interest—his people are more than ever solicitous only of their own. The usual check from newspaper exposure is absent in this case. The Press has strangely neglected our royal neighbour and his affairs. A subject in which so many human beings are interested as the family and dependents of the ex-King, cannot be a trifle. The *Englishman*, which is so ready to see the laches of the Native Press, would do well to extend its area of usefulness by taking an occasional peep into the hazy region enveloped by the clouds of perfumed smoke from prepared tobacco ignited in all manner of fantastic pipes, with atmosphere surcharged with the odour of the waters and oils of flowers, and the flavour of real Indian *pilau* and genuine King of Oude's sauce. The native papers may be nothing, but the European papers might do better. Just now, most extraordinary things are going on under their very noses and they make no sign. In our issue of the 16th July, we gave an account of the King of Oude's illness and a distinct indication of the advantage that was being taken of it. We have since, in almost every number, drawn public attention to the subject. We do not know if it has attracted the attention of the Local and Supreme Governments. Certainly, no signs are visible, whether in the shape

of inquiry or in improvement in the state of things at the Palace. It will be remembered that the King's very seals have been abstracted, under an impudent make-believe of burglars having broken into the room in which they were kept. It is characteristic of the Household that this loss was not reported to the King. On the night of Wednesday the 13th July, the box of seals seem to have been removed, for the following morning a trumpety hole was discovered in the wall of the room. Notice was given to the Police, but, before they arrived, the door had been opened and a report spread that the box was gone. When the Police came, they had little left to do, but they declared that the hole was a blind, as a child could not enter by it. All the while, the sick King was unconscious of his loss. It was not till the 20th July that His Majesty was informed of it. Even then the information was given not by his officers but by his nephew and son-in-law, Prince Jehan Kudr Bahadur. This Prince seems in very self defence to have informed his royal uncle. He waited for a whole week, but finding that the King's people were determined, after their wont, to keep their master in the dark, he at length broke the matter to the King, to avoid blame from himself, for the hole had been made in the wall communicating with the Prince's stables, doubtless to suggest that the seals had been abstracted by himself. The affairs of Garden Reach are not looked upon with the same indifference by the Mahomedans as it seems to be regarded by the rest of the community, and a Persian newspaper has got hold of and published an Arzee or Memorial which it declares to be the identical statement in writing presented by the Prince and by which he brought the robbery of the royal seals to His Majesty's notice. It is a document, which does credit to Mirza Jehan Kudr's good sense and character. It is a precise, straightforward narrative in which the facts are given in sufficient but not wearisome detail, and motives assigned to explain the facts but without particularity of persons or the obtrusion of unnecessary animus, and, above all, without the flowers of Oriental eloquence which are so dear to the Lucknow mind and which so hide the sense from all other kinds of mind. It is just the sort of writing which the King's rhetors could, in perfect good faith, vote dull and, what is worse, Frankish.

That spiriting away of the seals gives the key to the constitution of this domestic kingdom in our midst, and the men by whom, and the manner in which, it is being carried out. The best system proves profitless without the preper men, and the King has always had an unfortunate *entourage*. Still there was some show of government—some subordination. His men did much as they liked, still they were restrained by the fear of dismissal and disgrace from running to extremes. Now that the King is not master of himself, how can he control his servants? Now that His Majesty is prostrate by illness and not expected to live, they are making the utmost of the hours that remain to them. While his family and innocent dependents are anxious about their future in the event of the King's demise, the more powerful and enterprising are conveying property out of the precincts. For the last three or four months specially, there has been a regular *Loot* going on in broad daylight. The Garden Reach Police could give an account that would startle Government. They had seized some carts laden with valuable effects veneered over as it were with common *sutranjees* and wornout carpets and vulgar bedding, but;

strange to say, there were no claimants on the part of the King. Since then, a stream of such carts have been issuing out without let or hindrance. Of late, the pretence is that these goods belong to tradesmen in the city who had sent them in for inspection, but as the King was ill they were sent back. The District administration seems to be paralysed in the face of such transparent "humbug." Under the circumstances, we look up to Government. We still rely upon the Governor-General's Agent.

## .. AN APOLOGY FOR PLEASURE.

### A WORD IN SEASON.

As the ailments the mind is subject to are numerous and more disastrous in their consequences than the simple ills of the body, it would be well if greater attention was bestowed by all on means of cure, or methods of preserving its health and vigour. To the great majority of thinking men this life is a puzzle and a problem, and they often wonder why they were created; and the wisest of them must own that their existence has been, so far as they know, a conscious failure. Hence the sadness which often envelops great minds, even while the world applauds. Hence Newton's confession that whatever he had done, to himself he was but as a little child picking up pebbles on the sea-shore, while the great ocean of truth lay undiscovered before him. The philosophic acceptance of life merely as it is, has been stigmatised as epicurean; the dull endurance of it, simply because we do not make ourselves, and we cannot get any better, has been set down as stoical; the spirit which looks upon life as something to be wept over and regretted is that which instigates another school of philosophers, while yet another sneers at, laughs and ridicules all occurrences of existence. There is, however, between these four—pleasure, dull endurance, scornful laughter, and grief—a cheerful standing-point of Christian manliness and of calm happiness which a good, no less than a great, man may maintain. But this is not easily accomplished. The best positions in life, the highest points of philosophic reasoning, are not readily attained. There is always the danger of being driven into one of the above noted four states to be guarded against.

During the period of youth life is so easy and so pleasant, even for those who are poorly born, so full of illusion and mere animal enjoyment, that it is hard not to be epicurean, and not to seek in pleasure for the chief good. In fact, all desire pleasure, that is the ultimate end sought, even the goal of heaven as distinguished from that of hell: what men differ about, is the kind of pleasure. When pleasure palls and fails in repetition—as it will do even if purely mental—we seek to become stoical, and, failing this, drift into cynicism. The good, easy man, without deep feeling, naturally drifts into a tone that laughs at everything; which appears to be a worse state, because often more hopeless, than the cynical. It is, indeed, all the more cynical because it wreathes its bitterness in smiles. It seems to us that it would be better and more human to die in a spirit of despair and disappointment than with such a condemnation of the Maker's work, with regard to oneself and one's surroundings, as that which proclaims life, with its tears, its struggles, and its hopes, to have been a farce and a jest. Equally difficult it is to avoid being driven into a position where one covers oneself with the robe of stoicism which pretends that nothing matters and that nothing hurts, that, all being arranged, things must be as they are, and that it is of no use to struggle against fate; or to that position which takes refuge in grief and tears, though a continual mourning over the cross and bitter times may manifest at least some feeling for others—some natural disappointment over one's own weakness and want of ability; and show itself more amiable than stoicism.

One ought to be thankful that there is a middle position to be occupied, wherein one may preserve a decent and manly equilibrium—laughing with those who rejoice, and grieving with those who weep. We are intended to possess life, and not to be over-possessed by its cares and troubles; and by duly administering proper medicines to the mind, we should purge it of its sickness and restore it to health, the chief of all blessings—*Sanitas sanitatum, omina sanitas*. The chief aim of the mental physician should be to take

hold of gladness; it is an old English word of immense and healthful force—*Mens hilaris, requies, moderate dicta*. Modern physicians wish for no better help, and cannot tell us more; all that they wish to know now is how to find out medicines of the kind that will be palatable. If we can only get the proper sort of Dr. Merryman, the case is half cured: the trouble is that with most patients a long exercise in ambition, or money-getting, or the bustle of business, without that result, has so emasculated the mind that it does not even know how to be merry, and restlessness prevents its being quiet.

Of course merriment and quiet will depend upon hope and faith; if we can manage to instil these, or one of these, the rest may follow. We can be cheerful while we have hope, and cheerfulness presupposes merriment. And this medicine need only be administered up to the limits of becoming mirth—although it is hard to say what mirth is not becoming. The French humourist who, seeing from the window of his sick chamber a donkey devouring cheese cakes at a stall, was so struck with it that, laughing convulsively, he broke a quinsy and saved his life, might well place the limits of merriment at a wide distance—in fact, almost out of bounds. Socrates, who has been ranked among the wisest of men, was so habitually merry that he would take his "glass" with the best, be merry with the best, be merry with the young, and delight in gleaning wisdom from the mason, the carpenter, and artisans generally, who, he said, were, as a rule, much wiser than the higher classes, judges, senators, governors, and soldiers. This same Socrates it was who was found "upon all fours" amidst his children—nay, with a long stick between his legs, whipping it up, and curveting to the delight of the youngsters, and amid the sneers of Alcibiades who found him so. But what then! Was he not to empty his mind? Is the king always to play the king and be as solemn as an owl? Do we not shift our positions and stand at ease like soldiers? Are we never to sit sideways and let off the steam of our humours?

Cosmo de Medici, it is related, now and then loved fools and jesters, stage plays, and fun with children, and that, wise as he was, he could play the fool. Why not? Cosmo was giving his mind a pill, useful and necessary, goodness knows, in those sad times, when every prince was surrounded with spies, and every one had to walk circumspectly amidst the pitfalls of state. We cannot keep in a position without a deadly fixture. The Brahman who makes a vow that he will lift his hand to the heavens and never withdraw it, keeps his vow at the expense of his arm, and becomes a hideous figure, often seen in India—at which sensible men may shudder, but which no man can approve, unless as mad as the Brahman. It is said that Oliver Cromwell was fond of letting his guards rush into and feast on the dinner set for his courtiers, and that he would laugh at the soldiers scrambling for the dainties. One can excuse such action, because it was probably some outlet to that mind overlaid with the cares of state, and disturbed by the weakness of his subordinates. Why should we blame that in Cromwell which would have been thought a good jest in the saturnine Charles II? And why should not the Protestant Henry IV of France play with his children, the grave Sully looking on with a smile?

The truth is that a capacity for merriment and gladness, a most blessed gift, is a proof of sanity and wisdom. This capacity should be encouraged, exercised, and cultivated, especially in times of depression and of but a narrow outlook for enjoyment. Light and cheerful reading is a good medicine, almost as good, though not wholly so, as jovial and merry companionship, which is the best of all mind medicine, because it has a powerful contagion about it. The collision of a fresh mind with one jaded and tried with much thinking, often produces the happiest and most unexpected results. We get new views of life from such a mind—things strike us in a different light; and although our own views may be the wiser, we are yet enabled to see more clearly. We should also try to take short views of life, to live down to the day, to let the morrow take care of itself, and throw yesterday behind us. That which is past should be treated as past; if it were past—and the truism which says it is such is not true—it would be better for most of us. "Look not mournfully into the past, it comes not back again; wisely improve the present, it is thine; go forth to meet the shadowy future, without fear and with a

manly heart." Words of wisdom culled from a memorial tablet in one of Gods acres in Germany. A sick mind is often surrounded by ghosts of its own actions, not necessarily bad ones, or stupid ones, but those which the actor distrusts; hence a weakness which is pitiable, an impossibility to escape from improbable consequences, a haunting morbid melancholy, a dwelling upon failure and non-success, a sadness compounded of hopelessness and distrust. If we could forget what has been done, and trust to the future, how our troubles would be cured.

The shifting nature of mental complaints renders their cure difficult in the extreme. The finest tact in the world will not always suffice him who has to play the part of consoler. The very consolation offered is sometimes regarded as an affront, and is often taken the scamy side without. It does not fit the particular case—it is like a weapon which hits other people's follies but not our own. Or, if it fits us, it may make us worse by setting the mind busily to work to find out other troubles. Hence it is wise to shift the quarters and read on quite different subjects from that of our complaint. We should for mental medicines cultivate our passions. There are those who, because some passions are hurtful in excess, think that all are so, just as there are those who condemn meat and wine because others abuse them. But half of the passions are unused, and they are each beneficial in ousting others. We grow melancholy and sick not because we are whole men but because we are half men. We run too much on one wheel and the lynch-pin comes out. It is this grinding at one particular task that makes one sick of life. Things should be allowed to take their course for a time and the weaker should concede—what he will soon have to concede—that even his little world will go on very well without him. In a word, the great thing is strenuously to endeavour to escape from self. That, after all, is the great cure; unless we can do that, we shall but patch up and not remove mental complaints. The Government of India seems to understand this thoroughly, and therefore, wisely grants to its higher officers lengthened periods of furlough; and in its benign wisdom has recently extended this boon of privilege leave to its humbler servants. The European merchants and tradesmen of Calcutta do not seem to be able to comprehend how necessary it is for one who toils all the year round to have an unbroken period of rest to recoup mental energy. It is pitiable to see how these masters break into the short twelve days' rest of their employes. The Custom-house must be open, the bank must be open, because the merchants choose to keep their offices open on certain days. Is not this mammon-worship in extreme? For all recuperative purposes the Poojah holidays are now almost futile. It would be better to have no holiday than to have such a see-saw affair as at present. The tradesmen of Calcutta ignore altogether the necessity of any holiday for those who gather the honey for their use and benefit. These tradesmen would make their employes work on Sundays also, if it was respectable to do so. As a fact, many European trading firms in Calcutta do make their assistants work on Sundays. "What is sauce for the goose is not sauce for the gander"; it is so at all times, and in all places. The merchants and tradesmen of Calcutta act to the full on this principle—they must have lengthened leave to Europe as a parenthesis to their period of service here. Do these gentlemen really believe their assistants are more enduring than case-hardened metal? Case-hardened metal wears out by continuous friction!

Melancholy and distaste of life belong to the black and secret sins, and are all the more subtle as well as sinful, because they put on the habit of martyrdom, retire from the world, and think that they are the only miserable and neglected creatures, nursing their black pride until it becomes a deliberate offence against the Deity. If we naturally dislike a surly and snarling dog, can we suppose that a like nature in man will be acceptable to God? Whereas, the healthful, cheerful man does good even by his brave, broad, open look as he walks the street; he proves his content by his satisfaction, his hope by his bright outlook, his faith by his easy capacity for innocent pleasure, and while he lifts his heart to Heaven, doth, like a pretty and simple flower by the wayside, cheer, strengthen, and console.

#### THE PATRIOT OF THE PERIOD IN NEGLIGENCE.

If a cat may look at a King, why may not I, a human being, look a little closely at a lesser mortal, the patriot of the period? When you pitched into that trimmer of an editor masquerading in the mantle of a patriot, I mean of course Mr. Bannerjee, for having joined in congratulation in misfortune and disgrace, I thought that you ought to have been "a little blind to his faults." But verily we live to learn, for now I almost regret that you were not severer than you were, seeing that a rank hypocrite should be given no quarters. The leaderette of the *Bengalee* commenting on the appointment of the Chief Justice as Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University, leads me to the above remark.

But why does the editor of the *Bengalee* of all—that eloquent apostle of Local Self-Government show a hankering after European Vice-Chancellor in preference to an Indian, whose "eminent scholarship, great literary ability, and lifelong experience in education, eminently entitle him to the honor?"

I will tell you the true reason, for there is no more believing a patriot of the period than an epitaph or a woman:—Towards the beginning of the year old mortality was constrained to observe in the course of a slashing leader entitled "English Training Fog and Fallacy," that "out of a dozen appointments of natives in the Civil Service one proved so morally disastrous that the offender had to be dismissed from the service." What a piece of red rag is a Bahmini bull this remark was to Mr. Bannerjee. It cut him to the quick and kindled into white heat the animosity which he has cherished to the old man eloquent ever since the morning when the former awoke and found himself metamorphosed into a full blown patriot. It is of course not in the nature of man, who is defined to be a grudge-bearing animal, to forego *tu quoque*, and our blatant bumptious saviour of Bengal who had been on the watch for an opportunity to be even with the old antiquary, settled an old score by charging him with the atrocious crime of being a man of eloquence and erudition (for those that can read between the lines will at once see that no other person is alluded to), and by declaring his belief that "the trained judicial mind of the Chief Justice will be a safer guide in educational progress than the eloquence and erudition" of one who has been called by Sir Richard Temple as "the most effectively learned man of my day." But what avail the eloquence and erudition of Dr. Mitra, when he is not an able administrator? insinuates our patriot and adds insult to injury. Well, granting for the sake of argument and only for the sake of argument, that Lala is not an able administrator—does not the editor of the *Bengalee* say week after week that if one does not go to water until one has learnt to swim, one will be no swimmer till the Greek calends? But unhappy man! his is a jaundiced eye and everything looks yellow to it. But this is not all, for the patriot of the period who, by the way, has the unenviable knack at drawing out the thread of his verbosity finer than the staple of his argument, says "By this selection the Government seems to have adroitly avoided the necessity of considering the claims of the different Indian candidates." Adroitly, indeed! But where lies the adroitness pray? We lesser mortals do not perceive it with naked eyes no not even with the aid of a microscope. In suppression of the "highest established claim" of Dr. Mitra, one of the oldest fellows of the University, for a long time a syndic, a quondam President of the Asiatic Society, a veteran educationist and a profound scholar whose writings are esteemed throughout the globe, Sir Comer Petheram is appointed to fill the office of Vice-Chancellor, and the model gentleman of the Press jubilantly exclaims "the appointment carries universal approval" and "the Government has adroitly avoided the necessity," &c.

Is this honest and honorable journalism? Is not this *caecothus scribendi* run mad? Is not this the advocacy of Local Self-Government with a vengeance? But if it were the honest conviction of Mr. Bannerjee that Sir Comer Petheram was the fittest of all gentlemen that were said to be in the running for the Vice-Chancellorship, I should have been the last person to take umbrage at his effusion, but would on the contrary have praised him for the courage of his conviction. It is however not his honest conviction, indeed it cannot be the honest conviction of any one having two grains of sense to rub against each other. Some of your readers who are of a more forgiving disposition than myself, may feel disposed to laugh at the pranks of an editor even as Jove laughs at "lovers' perjuries." But

Who dares think one thing and another tell  
My heart detests him as the gates of hell,

no matter whether he is an editor, a patriot or a pedagogue. If after all I have said above, you Mr. Editor are not at one with me in holding that the editor of the *Bengalee* does allow personal spite to get the better of his judgment, how will you account for the fact that, while he does not omit to notice the appointment of Mr. X. as a member of a Society of Kamatschatka or Timbuctoo, he has hitherto abstained from noticing the election of Dr. Mitra as an honorary Member of the Asiatic Society of Italy? But this is not the first time that the consummate adept in the art of dissimulation has been caught tripping. So long ago as in 1883 he,

in combination with several other Fridays of Mr. Harrison made an attempt to deprive the Metropolitan Corporation of its privilege of the unrestricted election of its Secretary. But there was Mr. Lal Mohun Ghosh who struck off the patriot's mask with Ithuriel's spear which "compelled him to assume his proper form." With great gusto Mr. Ghosh thus gave it to the apostle of Self-government:

"I protest against the surrender of our rights involved in the resolution. When I first received the notice of motion and read the names of the proposer and seconder, it seemed to me that a most extraordinary coalition had taken place and that the resolution before us was the offspring of an unholy alliance between two remarkable men. But I am astounded to find the name of my friend Baboo Surendra Nath Bannerjee put down as the seconder of the motion. Can it be true that the man who has made so many speeches within these very walls against the undue influence of official chairman, is now about to turn his back upon his principles and betray the confidence of his countrymen. It would have been a strange commentary upon his past course if my friend had persevered in his original intention. I am, however, glad to find that Baboo Surendra Nath has repented and retreated out of that position. I hope that he will also have the courage to vote on the right side of the question. I hope that my friend will not adopt a trimming policy or trying to hunt with the hound and run with the hare."—*Reis and Rayyet*, Feb., 10, 1883.

It must be said in this connection that at the time in question a story was freely circulated that the astute angler of the Corporation offered a bait to the patriot, who had been bought off only a few months previously at the ignoble price of a Presidency Magistrateship, and that he swallowed it fly, and hook and all. If I were to rake up bygones, I could conclusively show that as editor, Mr. Banerjee represents no body but himself and that only the personal likes and dislikes of the editor find copious expression in the *Bengalee*.

Did not the whole country boil with indignation at the peculiarly offensive and disgustingly false assertion,—that 75 per cent. of the educated and well-to-do Hindus are Gokhadaks, which one of your Little Peddlingtonsians made at a meeting of the Corporation, forgetting that it is a bad bird that fouls its own nest? But there was no eruption of the volcano at Taltollah. For are not the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost one God as to substance, though three persons in individuality? Is not Baboo Kali Nath one of the leading members of the Indian Association? Indian Association indeed! A noun of multitude which signifies many but does not signify much! Again when the scientific hind of the Corporation sold his birth right for a mess of pottage, no not even for so substantial a thing as a mess of pottage,—only for a smile and a pat on the back from Messrs. Cunningham and Co., and the whole press condemned the conduct of the 'weak man' in no measured terms, the model editor made no sign, for the bucolic Dr. as you know, is Surendra's Angel.

On the translation of the Hon'ble Kristodas Pal to the Viceregal Legislative Council, a rumour was current in town that another native gentleman would be taken in to represent the Rayyets. Our patriot of the period who has regarded a membership of the Indian Council as the be all and end all of his existence, ever since he has "taken up politics for revenge and glory," and who is still ready to purchase it at the price of his overburdened conscience, was not the man to let slip such a golden opportunity. An agent was at once appointed to educate public opinion. His was a labor of love but he set to work with an amount of energy and enthusiasm worthy of a better cause. That love's labor was lost, goes without saying. The agent saw the editor of the *Bangabasi* and asked him on his knees to recommend the hero of birch to a seat in the Council. But it was against the grain of the astute editor, who knew the stuff our patriots are made of, that the Legislative Council which was already a sham should be converted into a bigger sham. The indefatigable agent started on his tour with a view to manufacture public opinion and came to a town within 6 hours' journey from Calcutta armed with resolutions drafted by the would be Councillor which were to be adopted by the people of the place assembled at a public meeting. But all his swans were geese, three gentlemen being selected by them and his patron being nowhere. One more incident in the life of our Brummagem patriot and model editor—by the way any body and every body can in these days successfully play the editor, from the itinerant fiddler even unto the coo—-and I have done. Sometime in 1833 he had a violent attack of *carothes loquendi*—that inveterate complaint to which the patriots of the day are frequently subject, and came to a Mofussil town for change of air; for a time the disease took a very bad turn, the patient was in delirium and indulged in fatuous flapdoodle and transcendental moonshine. He put up with the local Zemindar, who happened to be a subscriber to a paper which, in point of scholarship at any rate, is unquestionably the first of all the native papers in India. In course of conversation with the Zamindar the demagogue said that he for one could make nothing of the scribblings of the eccentric editor of the paper referred to. They were indeed Greek to him. I need hardly say that the aristocratic noodle took his cue from his guest and gave up looking into the paper which our patriot was

pleased to term as a worthless print. I have far exceeded my limits, and must here close with the expression of a hope that the patriot of the period will henceforth "let all the ends he aims at be his country's, his God's and truth's and that he will not lay the flattering unction to his soul that not his trespass but my madness speaks."

ITHURIEL'S SPEAR.

## BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 6th September 1887.—Baboo Taruck Nath Mullick, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Howrah, is confirmed in the second grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Obhoy Chunder Das, retired.

Mr. A. Rattray, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Darjeeling, is confirmed in the second grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Mr. W. M. Smith.

Baboo Doorgagutty Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, third grade, on deputation as First Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division, is promoted temporarily to the second grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Taruck Nath Mullick.

Baboo Annada Persad Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on deputation as Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, is confirmed in the third grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Rakhal Das Mookerjee, deceased.

Baboo Kali Prosonno Sircar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Magoora, Jessore, is confirmed in the third grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Taruck Nath Mullick.

Baboo Taraprasad Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manbhoom, is confirmed in the third grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Mr. A. Rattray.

Baboo Dwarka Nath Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, fourth grade, is promoted temporarily to the third grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Annada Persad Ghose.

Baboo Dino Nath Mookerji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, fourth grade, is promoted temporarily to the third Grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Doorgagutty Banerjee.

Baboo Umachurn Gangooly, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Khoolna, is confirmed in the fourth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Mr. H. B. Beames.

Baboo Nund Kishore Dass, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on deputation as Assistant Superintendent, Tributary Mehals, Cuttack, is confirmed in the fourth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Annada Persad Ghose.

Baboo Rajani Nath Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on deputation as Manager, Surajpore Estate, Purneah, is confirmed in the fourth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Kali Prosonno Sircar.

Baboo Amar Nath Bhattacharjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on deputation as Second Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division, is confirmed in the fourth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Tara Prosad Chatterjee.

Baboo Mohinee Mohun Chuckerbutty, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, fifth grade, is promoted temporarily to the fourth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Uma Churn Gangooly.

Baboo Rajgopal Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, fifth grade, is promoted temporarily to the fourth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Dwarka Nath Sen.

Baboo Troylucko Nath Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, fifth grade, is promoted temporarily to the fourth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Deno Nath Mookerjee.

Baboo Chunder Narain Gupta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is confirmed in the fifth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Uma Churn Gangooly.

Moulvie Mahomed Abdul Kadir, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Contai, Midnapore, is confirmed in the fifth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Nund Kishore Das.

Baboo Sant Persad, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purneah, is confirmed in the fifth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Rajani Nath Chatterjee.

Baboo Pran Kissen Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore, is confirmed in the fifth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Sital Nath Bose, deceased.

Baboo Gopal Chunder Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Burdwan, is confirmed in the fifth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Amar Nath Bhattacharjee.

Mr. W. R. Ricketts, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, sixth grade, on deputation as Manager of the Nilghiri Native State,

is promoted temporarily to the fifth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Mohini Mohun Chuckerbutty.

Baboo Koomud Nath Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, sixth grade, is promoted temporarily to the fifth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Rajgopal Roy.

Baboo Shib Chunder Nagg, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, sixth grade, is promoted temporarily to the fifth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Troylucko Nath Sen.

Baboo Nobin Chunder Das, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, sixth grade, is promoted temporarily to the fifth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Prankissen Roy.

Baboo Kedar Nath Biswas, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jhenida, Jessore, is confirmed in the sixth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Chunder Narain Gupta.

Baboo Khagendro Nath Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Oolooberiah, Howrah, is confirmed in the sixth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Moulvie Mahomed Abdul Kadir.

Mr. E. F. Ainslie, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Palamow, Lohardugga, is confirmed in the sixth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Sant Persad.

Moulvie Abdool Khalique, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Thakurgaon, Dinagepore, is confirmed in the sixth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Pran Kissen Roy.

Baboo Poorna Chunder Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Basirhat, 24-Pergunnahs, is confirmed in the sixth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Gopal Chunder Mookerjee.

Baboo Upendro Chunder Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, seventh grade, is promoted temporarily to the sixth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Mr. W. R. Ricketts.

Baboo Raghu Nath Sahi, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, seventh grade, is promoted temporarily to the sixth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Koomud Nath Mookerjee.

Baboo Ganendro Nath Pal, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, seventh grade, on deputation, is promoted temporarily to the sixth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Shib Chunder Nag.

Baboo Monmotho Coomar Bose, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, seventh grade, is promoted temporarily to the sixth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Ganendro Nath Pal, on deputation.

Mr. W. Rattray, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, seventh grade, is promoted temporarily to the sixth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Nobin Chunder Das.

Baboo Raghu Nath Sahi is confirmed in the seventh grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Kedar Nath Biswas.

Baboo Ganendro Nath Pal is confirmed in the seventh grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Khagendra Nath Mitter.

Baboo Monmotho Coomar Bose is confirmed in the seventh grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Mr. E. F. Ainslie.

Baboo Khetter Mohun Mitter is confirmed in the seventh grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Moulvie Abdool Khalique.

### A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta  
WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,  
on Thursday, the 15th September 1887, at 3 P.M.  
BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. The Chairman to lay on the table Administration Report and Accounts for the year 1886-87.
2. The Chairman to report result of the tenders received towards the new loan.
3. The Chairman to lay on the table audited Accounts of the Police Fund for the year 1886-87.
4. To confirm the recommendation of the Town Council that the Tramway Company be permitted to run steam engines on the Chowringhee line during the ensuing Doorga Poojah on the same conditions as were prescribed last year.
5. To confirm the proceedings of the Water Supply Extension Committee at Meetings held on the 29th August and 9th September.
6. To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at Meetings held on the 6th, 13th and 27th August.
7. To confirm the proceedings of the Bustee and Sanitary Committee at Meetings held on the 19th and 24th August.
8. Vital statistics for the month of July 1887.

At the close of the Special General Meeting  
A SPECIAL MEETING

will be held to consider the recommendation of the Town Council that a license be granted for storing jute at No. 135 Durmahatta Street.

R. TURNBULL,

Secretary to the Corporation.

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sented with a genuine Waterbury Watch.

### NOTIFICATION.

The 20th August 1887.—It is hereby notified for general information that an Election will be held, under Section 27, Act III (B. C.) of 1884, on Saturday, the 8th October 1887, in Ward No. VI of the Suburban Municipality, in the District of the 24-Pergunnahs, for the purpose of filling the places vacated by Babu Hemchunder Banerjee, who has resigned his appointment as a Commissioner of the above Municipality, and by Babu Jogendra Chundra Ghose, who has ceased to be a Commissioner under Section 20 of Act III (B. C.) of 1884.

COLMAN MACAULAY,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

### COOK'S REDUCED RATES for Doorga Poojah Holiday Tours from Calcutta.

- Sep. 15 and 29. —To Madras, Ooty, Ceylon, &c.,  
by P. & O. Steamer.
- „ 17.—To Shillong *via* Goalundo. I. G. S.  
N. Co.
- „ 21.—To Ceylon, and Sunderbuns (Sport-  
ing Tour.)
- „ 22.—To Rangoon, Mandalay, Akyab. P.  
& O. Steamer.
- „ 23.—To Andamans, Rangoon (21 Days  
Tour.)
- „ 24.—To Darjeeling at *Single Fares* for  
the Double Journey (all classes)  
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„ 27.—To Australia starting from Bombay  
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Thursday, September 22, 9-30 A. M., Dia-  
mond Harbour with Band of Leinster Regi-  
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Saturday, September 24, Cook's Special  
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# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1887.

No. 267

## The Week.

**D.** V., and making due allowance for the slips between the cup and the lip, the Viceroy will return to the capital on the 17th December. His Excellency holds the annual Levée at Government House, on Tuesday, the 20th December 1887, at 9-30 P.M. The Drawing Room is fixed for Friday following the 23rd December, at the same hour.

WE are assured by the morning papers that the Knights of Pathuriahata are brothers again—in arms? When will our contemporaries learn wisdom? They are continually counting their chickens before they are hatched.

It was notified that the Custom House would, during the holidays, be opened four days, on the 21st, 27th, 28th and 30th September, and closed six days, on the 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 26th, 29th September and 1st October. A revised notice further reduces the close holidays from six to four days, namely, 23rd, 26th, 29th September and 1st October. On Thursday, September 22, the House will remain open from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M., and on Saturday September 24, from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M., for inward and outward entries and clearances, and for grant of urgent export and import passes. Why this change? The Chamber of Commerce has evidently been at the work.

WHATEVER the indifference of our brethren in Bengal, our notice of the condition of the King of Oude has attracted notice in Great Britain. From far off South Wales this voice comes:—

"Sailors voyaging to the Hooghly are likely, before long, to lose a view familiar to them all—the palace and grounds of the ex-King of Oude, at Garden Reach, close to Calcutta. The excellent Hindoo paper, the *Reis and Rayyet*, states, that his ex-Majesty is fast approaching the bourne from which even monarchs do not return, and that those around him are looking out for the spoil. When Oude was annexed, the King's dominions were reduced to one domain, and that only an estate, with which, however, he was authorised to do, practically, what he pleased, having an official Resident at his court, and deference such as is given to a sovereign. Still he was a prisoner, and was limited in much. He created the finest menagerie in India, or, it is said, in the world. Assuredly it is a marvellous collection of fierce and tame animals, roaming in ample spaces, of birds, cobras, and snakes of many names, and of monkeys and what-not; the king spending his days and nights in first one and then another of three palaces, which were built for him. His amusement was painting, without perspective. And now the end is near, and a drama—involving, in the opinion of many, real cause of the Mutiny—is approaching its close. The nation has yet to repair great wrongs done in the annexation of Oude; but whether or not the wrongs will ever be repaired, no man, perhaps, would dare even to surmise."—*Swansea Journal*, August 20, 1887.

That shows more knowledge than many an Anglo-Indian possesses, above all more sympathy for aliens than Englishmen can usually muster.

AN incident of the Jubilee Pardon:—

"Some years ago a gunner, not happy with his lot, deserted from his battery. He obtained employment in Calcutta, and in course of time, by dint of energy and hard work, found himself in circumstances far more prosperous than her Majesty's service could ever have brought him. At the beginning of this year, however, he heard that, on the occasion of the Jubilee, any deserter from the army would, on declaring himself, receive a free pardon. Such an opportunity of clearing his conscience with no inconvenience to himself was not to be lost, and our gunner accordingly gave himself up to the authorities. But he

appears to have made some mistake. At the present moment he is in confinement awaiting his trial by court-martial for desertion. He has learnt too late that 'V. R.' does not always mean 'virtue rewarded.'"

A better illustration of the inscrutable ways of Providence was never given—how guilt will out and be out of its own mouth condemned—how transgressors offer themselves willing victims to the great Jagannath car of the Avenging Angel! The astute gunner is served right—in every sense. The very cunning of the serpent at last proves too much for it.

JUVENILE Dacca has its counterpart in the rising generation of Burrisal. The Burrisal young imps met on a Tuesday afternoon to compliment the students of Dacca for their "noble resolution not to attend the Star Theatre." The objection is, we believe, that the Star actresses are of the ordinary Magdalene Order.

There are doubtless mature spirits at the back of the juveniles. Are they alarmed at the competition of the poor public women?

MAHARANI Surnomoye of Cossimbazar has made a gift of Rs. 20,000 for promotion of technical education in her own District of Moorshebad.

THE sepoy charged with assaulting the gardener Maries, of the Durbhanga household, has been sent to jail for 6 months by the Judge, in spite of the verdict of "not guilty" of the assessors. Does the sepoy appeal? Will our Behar contemporaries publish the judgment?

THE next half-yearly examination of Compounders commences on Wednesday, the 12th October next, at the Campbell Medical School. Applicants must register themselves and deposit the prescribed certificate and fee at least one week before the examination day.

INDIA'S annual export of sugar is given at about 50,000 tons.

MR. D. FITZPATRICK succeeds Sir Charles Elliot in the Chief Commission of Assam. The appointment dates from the 18th.

ACCORDING to a Parliamentary return, the National Debt in 1886-87 amounted to £736,278,688 or £6,003,723 less than in 1885-86 and £100,865,909 less than in 1856-57.

THE Chief of Jamkhadi in the Southern Mahratta country, has abolished imposts upon trade in his territory.

THE London Foreign Office warn all persons travelling in Italy that, "under regulations issued by the Italian Government, no weapons whatever, whether revolvers, sporting guns, long-knives, or swordsticks, may be carried in Italy without a license."

THE *Fort St. George Gazette* announces the suspension of Mr. Runga Charry, District Munsiff of Sholinghar. Mr. Farmer, while District Judge of Kurnool, brought some serious charges against him. Mr. C. S. Irvine, District Judge of Trichinopoly, has been appointed Commissioner to enquire into the charges.

DURING the year ending 30th September 1886, there were 60 estates under the management of the Court of Wards or under the Taluk-

dars' Relief Act, in Oudh. The collections came up to Rs. 16,03,904 besides Rs. 43,629 on arrears account. This gives a percentage of 98·66 of a year's rental. Of the expenditure during the year, 42·1 represents revenue, cesses and rates, 28·8 debts paid off, 8·0 maintenance granted and 4·3 management allowance.

There are 12 benevolent and charitable trusts, including the Balrampore *Sadubrata* Fund founded by the Maharani of Bulrampore for yearly distribution of alms at Ajodhya. This Fund consists of Rs. 50,000 4 per cent. Promissory Notes and is managed by a Committee of management.

THE Nile has risen extraordinarily this year, causing serious floods throughout Egypt.

A CONSTANTINOPLE telegram says that the *Rustchuk Journal* having published an insulting article to himself, the German Consul applied to the Port for permission for three ironclads to pass through the Dardanelles to demand reparation of Bulgaria. The Porte hesitates, and the journal has been suppressed.

THE *Times of India* publishes the information as from an influential and reliable native Correspondent at Cabul, dated the 6th, that the Amir is lying dangerously ill at Pagman. A previous letter stated that the gout had extended to the thigh and that there was a proposition to amputate the left foot but that the Amir would not consent to the operation.

THE Home remittances from 1st April to 10th September 1887 amounted to £7,278,300, the budget estimate for the twelvemonth being £16,114,000.

THE Coffee outturn in Coorg for the present year is estimated at 7000 tons. It is expected to be above the average of last year, unless the season grows unfavorable.

WE read in the *Malabar and Travancore Spectator* of the 10th September :—

"At the Court of the Temporary Deputy-Magistrate of Malabar, on 29th ultimo, a complaint was laid by Mr. Charles Ackrill, of Calicut, against C. Masilaphony Moodelliar, the Proprietor and responsible Editor, and T. Sadagopa Modelliar, the Printer and Publisher, of the *Madras Law Times*, charging both, under section 500 of the Indian Penal Code, with having published, in the issues of that newspaper of 30th July and 13th August last, defamatory articles concerning him. Application was at the same time made for the issue of warrants against both the accused, complainant urging that, as the papers in question had been received in Calicut, the Court at Calicut had jurisdiction to entertain the complaint. The Magistrate, however, determined to take time to consider the question; and fixed the 5th instant as the date on which he would give his decision. The case was accordingly called on on that day, when the Court decided that it had jurisdiction; but pointed out that, under a Circular order of the Punjab Chief Court, the interests of all parties to the trial must be considered. Here the complainant only resided at Calicut, while the majority of the witnesses and both accused resided at Madras. Under the circumstances, the Court determined to submit the record to the District Magistrate, with the request that he would move the High Court to direct the transfer of the case to the file of the Chief Presidency Magistrate of Madras. Pending the orders of the District Magistrate, however, the case was adjourned. An order was passed by Mr. Logan, on Wednesday last, in which he has declined to apply for a transfer of the case to Madras, as suggested by the Temporary Dy. Magistrate; and directed that it shall be heard at Calicut, before the Court in which the complaint has been laid. Any witnesses resident at Madras, or elsewhere at a distance, the District Magistrate has pointed out, may be examined by Commission. Process will now issue accordingly for the appearance of both the accused."

THE following from the *Indian Mirror* we sometime ago marked for extract :—

"What good mathematical heads our Indian youths possess will be evident from the fact that Mr. Otul Chander Dutt, though not first in the list of successful candidates at the last Civil Service Examination, was first in mathematics—the number of marks won by him being 799 out of 1,000, which was the highest number, and the next candidate gained only 717 marks. He would have stood somewhat higher in the list, if he had not selected, as his second language, Latin, instead of Sanskrit, which he could, perhaps, have more easily acquired. It is satisfactory to note that Mr. Dutt stood first in all the mathematical examinations at which he appeared before."

A single instance like that cannot support a generalisation. The faculty of numbers is a well-established thing and there are hundreds

of our countrymen who are deficient in it. For all that, that is one of the strong points in our people. Nation for nation the Bengalis are in this respect certainly superior to the inhabitants of the British Isles.

BY Regulation made under the Siam Order in Council, 1887,

"Every British subject resident in Bangkok, or within twenty-four hours' journey thereof, and every British subject resident in Chiengmai, or within twenty-four hours' journey thereof, being of the age of twenty-one years or upwards, or being married, or a widower or widow, though under that age, shall in the month of January, 1887, and in every subsequent year, register himself or herself in the register-book kept for that purpose, either at Her Majesty's Consulate-General in Bangkok or at Her Majesty's Vice-Consulate at Chiengmai, and all British subjects resident in Siam beyond those limits shall, in like manner, register themselves as early as may conveniently be in the year 1887 and every subsequent year, subject to this qualification, that the registration of a man shall be deemed to include the registration of his wife, unless she is living apart from him, and that the registration of the head of a family, whether male or female, shall be deemed to comprise the registration of all females being relatives to the head of the family (in whatever degree of relationship) living under the same roof with the head of the family at the time of his or her registration."

The fee for registration is 2 ticals and the penalty for non-registration extends to ten times that amount or 20 ticals.

THE *Cochin Argus* has it :—

"The Metropolis of Travancore teems with literary curs who keep on barking incessantly at the Maharajah, the Dewan and Mr. Watts. But *qui bono?* He who runs may read, that the miserable effusions that weekly appear in the columns of our Calicut contemporary owe their origin to hatred, envy, malice and all uncharitableness. Let the *Spectator* be on his guard, and circumspect in what he publishes from irresponsible writers, for when the day of reckoning comes, his inspirers and contributors will be *non est* and he will have to bear the brunt. We speak from personal experience and we trust that our advice will be taken in the spirit in which the same is offered."

That is good. As we say in Bengal the patient of one day is the quack of another. But it is extraordinary that all the grave statements of the *Spectator* should pass unchallenged. How does our friend Sarvani now?

AFTER all the White Sonars of Madras city are not to enter into their new-gotten Raj without a struggle. We read in the *Madras Law Times* :—

"It must be remembered that sometime in October last year General William Ward Anderson of London undertook to raise a large loan of 20 or 25 lacs of rupees to the Zemindar of Sivaganga and in pursuance of this undertaking caused the money lenders to deposit £5,000 as earnest money in the Madras Bank and subsequently in December last year the Zemindar authorized by a duly registered deed of Power to raise the loan and complete the bargain, the Zemindar having been actuated on the assurance of the first-fruits lying idle in the Madras Bank. Seeing the then pressing difficulties of the Zemindar some European gentlemen have managed to overcome the long unwilling Zemindar, and obtained a lease of the Zemindary for 22 years on condition of paying up 17 lacs of rupees debt and taking possession of the estate with the produce and income of about 3 lacs then in charge of the Receiver of the Court. Just a day or two before the lease was actually entered into a written agreement, the General's intimation reached the Zemindar of his arrival to complete the bargain. The Zemindar was indifferent to this intimation, and granted the lease. The result being, we understand, that General Anderson intends filing two suits shortly, one for 2 lacs of rupees for his services, and the other for the specific performance of the contract. The affairs are in a mess, and if the Zemindar was in the fault he must be heavily fined by mulcting him in heavy damages. As for the lessees who seem to have apparently taken with the full knowledge of General Anderson's covenant, they must be made to look back to their place being repaid the money they actually paid *minus* the profits of the estates they have received. We are in possession of the full facts of the matter, but as the matter is soon to come in under what lawyers term *Suo judice* we refrain from making comments at present."

Yes, it is but fair to the lawyers that they should have a slice of the carcase. Indeed, they have quite a lien on it. It was they that originally brought it to its present condition. It was in the Shivganga and Ramnad litigation that the elder generation of the bar and their Beebees and mistresses made their harvest of Rupees. It was in those cases that the colossal fees discussed in a late issue were exacted—for whoever heard of such sums ever willingly paid for professional work?

MR. HENRY RHODES MORGAN, Deputy Conservator of Forests, son of Major-General Morgan, of Ooty, laid a criminal charge of adultery with Mrs. Morgan against Mr. H. T. Ross, of the Madras Civil Service, the acting Registrar of the High Court, Appellate Side. The hearing commenced on the 31st August before Mr. Scharlieb, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Madras. Mr. Gantz, instructed by Mr. Short, appeared for the complainant; the Advocate-General and Mr. Branson, instructed by Mr. William Morgan, for the defendant. Mr.

Gantz opened the case. In the course of the address he stated that Mr. Ross sought the acquaintance of Mrs. Morgan which acquaintance culminated into six acts of adultery, three times in a bullock coach and twice in Mrs. Morgan's house, and once in the compound, the first of which almost amounted to rape. This assault on the wife had decided the husband to proceed criminally against her seducer.

The first witness examined was the aggrieved husband, whose cross-examination was reserved. Mrs. Morgan next stepped into the witness box. The Magistrate, on the objection of the defence, refused the application to have her examined in the Chambers. Other witnesses were examined and the case committed to the sessions. The Magistrate would not entertain the more serious charge of rape.

THE Rao of Cutch has immortalised himself. Being in London during the Jubilee, he laid himself and his substance out for an entertainment regardless of expense to the assembled royalties and other magnates. The description of it in *Tut* is worth embalming:—

"The ball given by the Rao of Cutch on Tuesday was an entertainment of Oriental splendour, and again there was a large muster of Royalties and a great show of smart people, most of the invitations having been sent out by the Duchess of Manchester. The whole house was brilliantly illuminated, there being seven thousand colored lamps outside and on the balconies. There were palms, powers, and blocks of ice everywhere, and the decorations of every kind were superb. The supper, which included many novelties, was far and away the best that has been given in London this year, the champagne was perfect, and the meal was admirably served. There was iced soup, which was eagerly devoured, curries and devilled chicken (prepared by the Rao's cooks), which were of superlative excellence, and ortolance in abundance. A report had been spread that present to the value of £10,000 were to be given in the cotillion; so dire was the disappointment when it turned out that there was to be no "cotillion," and that the Monte-Cristo-like gifts were a "flam flim," for "society" is about as fond of gifts as a waiter at a restaurant is of tips. The Prince of Wales and his sons danced incessantly, and so did the Princesses of Teck and Schleswig-Holstein. The Rao blazed with jewels, and looked exceedingly picturesque. Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein wore a very pretty and becoming dress of white satin. The Duchess of Manchester looked splendidly handsome in pale yellow satin covered with cloth of gold, and with a superb tiara of diamonds. Lady Randolph Churchill looked well in black tulle worked on white silk. Black was very commonly worn. Mrs. Hopes' diamonds and emeralds attracted much attention, and so did Lady Ractives' pearls. The servants were in white, which produced a pleasant cold effect."

And to think of being insulted after all that!

THE following is going the round of the papers:—

"A painful sensation has been caused by horrible revelations in Ottawa tending to show an extensive traffic in children similar to that exposed by the *Pall Mall Gazette* recently. The chief of the police is making an investigation. The *Ottawa Free Press* has taken up the matter."

The truth is that this kind of traffic goes on, more or less, in almost every country in Europe and America, or for that matter in Asia, though the *modus operandi* is so quiet as to escape general observation.

THE following is going round the Press:

"A correspondent of an American paper speaks of an antidote to sea sickness. The sea-going person must be furnished with a rubber bag, twelve inches long and four inches wide, the mouth of which was closed by iron clamp. This bag is to be filled with small pieces of ice, and applied to the spine at the base of the brain for half to three-quarters of an hour every morning. It will have a most soothing effect, and he will enjoy every hour and every meal."

There is no novelty in that method. It is the late Dr. Chapman's cure for sea-sickness. It was advocated in some very good pamphlets. Chapman's icebags were we believe sold by the chemists.

DR. OPPERT, Professor of Sanskrit at Madras, has shamed Solomon. He has, like a true German, evolved out of the depths of his consciousness, or the confusion thereof, a truly new grievance. Before the Public Service Commission, he is said to have complained of the Madras Government poking fun at him once every year by sending him a present of the year's Report on the Lunatic Asylums. That con-

*Holloway's Pills.*—Invalids distracted by indigestion and discouraged in their search for its remedy should make trial of this never-failing medicine. A lady, long a martyr to dyspeptic tortures, writes that Holloway's Pills made her feel as if a burden had been taken off her. Her spirits, formerly low, have greatly improved; her capricious appetite has given place to healthy hunger; her dull, sick headache has departed, and gradually so marvellous a change has been effected, that she is altogether a new creature, and again fit for her duties. These Pills may be administered with safety to the most delicate. They never act harshly, nor do they ever induce weakness; they rightly direct deranged, and control excessive, action.

stant reminder has at length proved too much for him. There is a proverb among us that the blind or one-eyed get into a passion if they are mentioned as such. It may be dangerous to suggest the truth to those whose head-pieces are not in the best condition.

## Editorial Notes.

AYUB Khan is for the moment *non est*. There is no knowing where he may be vegetating. This is the substance of the news telegraphed to the Government of India from Meshed. Great anxiety is in consequence expressed in all quarters. Mischievous apprehensions from this Sirdar's flight coupled as it is with the difficulty of ascertaining his movements or whereabouts. We confess we do not share this new Nervousness. To begin with, we do not believe that Ayub has given his keepers the slip in any true sense; and we believe the keepers of the frontier on both sides could, if they cared, seize him. Even now, a little well-dispersed smart-money will in a few days put *milord Anglaise* in possession of the Sirdar's address, or for the matter of that, of his carcase, if needed. Speaking with due Oriental politeness we may say that these Central Asiatics are the most mercantile in spirit of all races on earth.

NOW that the Teutons true and unmixed of the Fatherland have set their heart upon the acquisition of "Ships, Colonies and Commerce," they are naturally out-Saxoning the outsider Saxons. It is telegraphed from Wellington that five hundred German troops landed at Samoa, deposed the reigning king, and, in spite of the British and American Consular protests, proclaimed a rival potentate. That is prompt and to the purpose—like the foray of Texan heroes headed by a noted "General."

THE new Crimes law is being worked with vigor in Ireland, under vigorous resistance. Mr. O'Brien having failed to appear under a summons at Mitchelstown, a warrant was ordered on the 9th. A mob followed the arresting officers, and the Police told off for their protection were repulsed, many being severely injured. The Police protected themselves by firing on the mob and wounded many and killed two. Order could only be restored by withdrawing the Police.

LORD George Hamilton declared in the House of Commons on the 8th that England still being supreme in respect thereof, there was no intention to add to her Ironclads. Yes, if our costly floating pans could be depended upon in the "tug of war." But where is the Nelson to lead them to victory? Where?

A RESIDENT of Kulu has, it is said, "been experimenting very successfully with tobacco from American seed, which, having been fermented and cured, gives a very pleasant cool smoking tobacco far superior to Pusa." We are not familiar with tobacco curing. From the above language, it is not quite clear whether the seed of the leaf was subjected to fermentation. By smoking tobacco, we suppose, is here meant leaf fit for conversion into cigars and cigarettes, or otherwise smoking it dry. When will Europeans and Americans revert to the former Anglo-Indian habit of using the far more civilised and agreeable Oriental pipes? It is not convenient as the dry mode, no doubt, but directly the leader of fashion show a kindly disposition to the better way, the manufacturers and the men of practical science who serve manufacturers, will take up the matter and reduce the inconvenience to a minimum. Handy *hookahs* are not difficult of construction. It is due to the progress of the times that a stand should be made against the present practice. We respectfully appeal to His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught to lead the people of the West to the light of the East. Cigars and the dry pipe may, for some time to come, be allowed in the open air or on railways. But it is time enough for a beginning in reform.

THE India office judgment in the Cambay scandal has appeared. It is the worst scandal in the whole business. The people of India and their rulers on the spot are alike insulted by this senseless piece of insolence. Those of our Western contemporaries who smiled at our extravagance at hinting at the resignation of Lord Reay, by way of answer to the despatch, will see how superior as a guide is our instinct to their wisdom. The Secretary of State takes the Governor

of Bombay to task for publishing the decision of the Bombay Government without waiting for superior orders. This completes the slavery of our immediate rulers. Lord Cross reverses the concurrent judgments of Lord Reay and of the Commission under the Act. The Grand Panjandram at Home is not prepared to believe that a British Political Agent was capable of conduct imputed to Mr. Wilson. The details of the charge, the time and manner of making the horrible proposals, only confirm his Lordship's faith in improbability. The subsequent conduct of Dewan Laud enhances my Lord's appreciation of the British Political. The Secretary of State entirely disbelieves the evidence offered by the Dewan, and acquits Mr. Wilson. The Political, however, does not wholly escape censure. He is declared guilty of conduct, after the charge, "unworthy of an officer in the high position which he held," and is not permitted to return to his own or any other's duty in India but put on the Retired List. The papers in the case were submitted to the Lord Chancellor and that repository of British Equity and Keeper of the Queen's Conscience too is of the same view with the Grand Vizier e Hind.

A PETITION has been presented by the certificated Pleaders practising at Tirupatur to the 2nd Class Magistrate of that place in which the following questions are raised :—

I.—Whether the criminal courts can in the exercise of the discretion given to them by clause (N) Section 4 of Act X of 1882, grant a permanent status to a private person not certificated under the L. I. Act XVIII of 1879 to practise in such Courts?

II.—Whether the criminal courts can grant permission to a private person when a sufficient number of certificated pleaders are practising in such court and are willing and ready to offer their services for equally cheap or cheaper remuneration?

III.—Whether such a private person, when permitted to conduct a particular case, can be allowed the honor of a seat in the Bar to the inconvenience of the certificated pleaders, or to the prejudice of their professional prospects?

It would appear that in the South unlicensed practitioners of the law abound. At any rate, in the District criminal courts not only are parties allowed to plead their own causes but their friends or "law men," other than regular pleaders or authorised lawyers, are allowed to serve them. It would be interesting to know the proportion of such practitioners to the regulars, and their character and qualifications, as well as their influence on litigation. Perhaps the *Madura Mail* will be good enough to take up the subject.

We find that :—

"Miss Florence Macnaghton, of Runkerry House, Bushmills, north of Ireland, has just performed a swimming feat under very peculiar circumstances. Seeking to persuade a local fisherman to become temperate, the latter promised to do so provided that Miss Macnaghton undertook to swim the bay between Blackrock and port Ballantrae, a distance of about one mile. The young lady accepted the challenge, and accomplished the undertaking in thirty-nine minutes, with the result that the fisherman donned the blue ribbon."

The question is, how long will the practical joker of an Irish *Jelia* continue to wear the cerulean mask of professional temperance? And when he doffs the colored rag that in bare politeness he has donned, poor Miss Macnaghton will have left nothing for her great sacrifice. For our part, we cannot admire her as many gushing Europeans are prepared to do. It was a foolish business. Her guardians ought to have stopped her. Surely, life is not a bagatelle to risk on the chance of skimming a certain labourer or workingman into good habits. Nor are we convinced of the good of teetotalism for the poor in Northern climes. Certainly, a fisherman who takes a little spirit to support his too insipid occupation—his life on water—is wiser than the educated gentlewoman who takes the poor fellow at his joke and swims a mile of salt-water.

ACCORDING to the *Cochin Argus*, British Cochin is now the hotbed of thieves, ragamuffins and house-breakers. For that matter, there is little to choose between British Cochin and any other part of British India. We do not know what color, rose or violet or *aparajita*, the matter will assume in official literature, or how reported to the Home Government, but from the newspapers it is too plain that of late there has been a distinct accession of crime against property and a considerable increase of the various forms of robbery from burglary and gang-robbery down to petty larceny, in very many parts of, if not all through, the Empire.

MR. G. S. SESHIAH, Deputy Inspector of Schools, South Dindignl, criminally sued some inhabitants of Rengasamudram, Ambasamudram Taluk, for having written a Mahazar accusing the Inspector of bribery. The Head Assistant Magistrate, Mr. E. C. Rawson, has found the accused guilty and fined each Rs. 35 with the alternative of one month's simple confinement. It is a pity the full proceedings are not published. Unless there were any circumstances in favour of the defendants, they have been tenderly dealt with. The case was one for genuine substantial punishment, and a fine of Rs. 35 is no punishment at all. The ringleaders certainly ought to have been sent to jail without the option of escape by any payment. By bringing his accusers to justice, Mr. Deputy Inspector Seshiah has done public service—the full measure of which has been wasted by Mr. Rawson's want of nerve.

THE Rishra people have followed up their third memorial for an intermediate railway station, by a deputation. Mr. J. Hudson, District Traffic Superintendent, E. I. R., Howrah, received on the 5th instant, at the Wellington Jute Mill premises, Rishra, some of the signatories. The Railway Agency evidently has taken up the question or at any rate is prepared to examine it more thoroughly than on previous two occasions. The deputation pointed out by figures that the cost of maintaining a station establishment cannot be more than Rs. 135, whereas the traffic is calculated to yield Rs. 570, thus showing a balance of Rs. 435 in favor of a new station. The figures may require checking, still we may reasonably depend upon a favorable balance. There can be little doubt that, with the growing trade of the locality, it will be an advantage to the line as it will be a convenience to the public, to open the station.

WE frequently hear our countrymen complain they could not find time to read even a newspaper. Let them read this in the *Daily News* (London) :—

"Sir Charles Russell will be the chief speaker in a brilliant group at the opening of the Chatham Reform Club this evening. In his boundless activity on behalf of the Liberal cause Sir Charles Russell sets a most striking example to Liberals all over the country. He has an enormous legal practice, and he attends closely to his Parliamentary duties. Yet no man has rendered more frequent and more brilliant service to his party in the advocacy of Liberal principles out doors than he has done since the present political issues were raised. We may infer two things from his splendid exertions. An Irishman himself, his heartfelt interest has been enlisted in the noble endeavour to settle the Irish question on lines of conciliation and true union, and he shares with his great leader the enviable faculty of arranging with method and overtaking with apparent ease an enormous quantity of mental work. We congratulate the Liberals of Chatham on the formation of a Reform Club, which we trust will mark the turning of the tide in the Liberal fortunes of Chatham."

The name of Sir Charles Russell has long been familiar to the public as that of a successful lawyer with a large practice. It is so rarely that such men shine in Parliament or on the platform that his steady rise on the political arena is a great relief to his friends.

His capacity for work reminds us of an anecdote that Sir Cecil Beadon delighted to tell in his old Secretariat days, of a greater far than Russell—Lord Brougham. During the height of his usefulness and fame, when he was doing a dozen men's work, lecturing at mechanics' institutes, speaking at public meetings and in Parliament and in the Courts, writing for the *Edinburgh Review*, contributing papers to the French Institutes attending at dozens of committees and to dozens of briefs, hunting up precedents, and even writing books, when the common talk in society was as to how one man could do all that even if he allowed himself no sleep—it was at this time that Beadon had seen Brougham in broad day sneak into his diminutive carriage from a disreputable house in a notorious street.

THE London *Daily News* says :—

"A terrible boiler explosion, resulting in the loss of three lives, is reported from Christchurch, near Wisbech. The boiler was attached to an engine working a chaffcutting machine on the farm of Mr. John Wooll, a well-known agriculturist in the Eastern Midlands. On Saturday, something having occurred to the pump, the foreman called his master, when the boiler exploded, the engine being blown through the roof. Bansley, the foreman, received such fearful injuries that he died shortly afterwards. Mrs. Wooll was seized with a paralytic stroke on seeing her husband carried into the house, and also died, and yesterday Mr. Wooll died from his injuries."

These explosions ought to warn us in this country. We fear the inspection of boilers is as efficient as the inspection of ships and steamers has lately been found to be. We do hope Government will give the departments concerned a "fillip."

## REIS &amp; RAYYET.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1887.

ON the eve of our annual national Jubilee we are shocked by the intelligence of the death of an Englishman in England which comes home to our breast as the dart of a personal bereavement. We are sure it will be so felt by many, natives as well as Europeans. It is, at the same time, much more than a private loss. It is a public calamity. In Major Evans Bell the nation has lost its sturdiest champion. God's mercy on him!

## THE DOORGA POOJA.

THE national Festival of Bengal is come. It is the Doorga Pooja season. We are indeed in the midst of the Pooja—the worship of the goddess Doorga. Let not the European reader start—the fact is even so. The worship is rather hastening to its end, for it commenced quite a week ago. In another week or ten days, all will be over! Not to puzzle foreigners we must explain that the chronology of the Pooja or worship is divided into two parts—the preliminary rites and the final observances, both being equally necessary. The preliminary part extends from twelve days to one day, according to the custom of the worshipper, but the latter worship is the same for all extending to three days and a final day for the breaking ceremony, in all four days. Now the preliminary worship is usually performed in quiet and without ostentation. Few can afford an expensive carnival of a fortnight—the very health of most Bengalis is unequal to such a strain, specially at this the worst season in the land. Hence most men are content to observe the worship and religious ritual—themselves a costly affair, with their offerings to gods and priests. Still those who do not mind the expense, have music and song—the *Naobot* and *Nautches* on those introductory days as on the succeeding ones. Every body reserves his full force for the last four days. On these days of the main worship, all the expense and festivity, the feasting and merry-making, are concentrated and lavished. It is on these too that the great goddess and her companions, connections and dependents are worshipped in their statues bepainted and dressed out and bedecked in all their tinsel. Naturally, in the eyes of Europeans and in those of the Indian masses to some extent, these four days, which are certainly of paramount importance, embrace the whole period of the Doorga Pooja. This Pooja is a national festival inasmuch as it is enjoyed by all classes of the population, not excepting those who share not in the religious observances. Hindus and Mussulmans alike look forward to it with lively feelings of thankful expectancy. But it is only the higher classes that know its mysteries—its divisions and chronological extent. For the rest of the community, it is the Bengali Carnival of four days. Such too is nationally the Anglo-Indian impression.

Herein is the root of all the difficulty about the Doorga Pooja vacation which crops up from time to time, almost year after year. It was not so bad before. Formerly, Europeans lived in the land more, and associated more with the people. They knew more of the country and the

inhabitants and, as a matter of course, liked and loved them better. Of late years, the pride of the Europeans, inflamed as it is in India of all places under the sun, has been further encouraged, on the one hand by the increasing sense of security of their power, and on the other by not unnatural jealousy of native advancement. They no longer care to be on good terms with the natives. They would perhaps like to show how they disliked and despised these—natives. The old disposition to sympathise with these children of the soil has long since evaporated. While the freedom of the native press and the obstreperous bearing of many of the Baboos have furnished many of the better class of Europeans with a plausible excuse to hand. Hence the constant bickerings between Britons and Baboos we hear of in Government and private establishments. Hence too the attack now annually made on the Bengali's Long Vacation on the occasion of the Doorga Pooja.

The question was forced on the attention of Government during the brief period that Sir Stuart Bayley acted for Sir Ashley Eden as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. After patient enquiry and exhaustive discussion, it decided on the continuing the indulgence to its Hindu servants and subjects of Lower Bengal. It was hoped that no more would be said upon the matter. But it was again raised in the time of Sir Rivers Thompson by the Chamber of Commerce acting as the mouthpiece of the Calcutta merchants and bankers. But the Lieutenant-Governor showed a firmness which astonished his admirers. He too, the man of prayer, bowed his orthodox Christian neck to the yoke of the Himalayan Amazon worshipped by the Hindus.

Thus again and again has the matter been settled. But all in vain. It has again been raised. This time in certain quarters of the banking and commercial world. Last week we made an appeal to these employers on behalf of their men. This week we have unearthed for their benefit the noble Government letter in which the subject was last discussed and decided. Here it is—

Financial Department.

Miscellaneous.—No. 328T—F.

Darjeeling, Dated the 30th May, 1882.

From Colman Macaulay, Esq., Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

To the Secy. to the Govt. of India, Dept. of Finance &amp; Commerce.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 773, dated 29th ultimo, enclosing, for an expression of the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, a memorial addressed to the Government of India by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, urging that the Doorga Poojah holidays should in future be restricted to the four close days which are alone observed as religious holidays.

2. The history of this question and the arguments on both sides were very fully discussed in Mr. Cockerell's letter No. 3809, dated 12th September 1879, with which were forwarded copies of a representation on the subject from the Chamber of Commerce, and of a report by a special Committee appointed by Sir Ashley Eden to consider it. The final decision of the Government of India, conveyed in Mr. Chapman's letter No. 452, dated 28th January 1880, was that the observance of the Doorga Poojah holidays in the public offices in Calcutta should continue as heretofore, care being taken to reduce to a minimum the inconvenience and loss which the mercantile community must, in consequence of this determination, continue to bear.

3. Mr. Rivers Thompson is of opinion that the general question thus definitely settled two years ago should not now be re-opened, but that some finality should be recognized in the decision on arguments which have been so repeatedly pressed upon the Government. It is to be observed, moreover, that the memorial now submitted does not really address itself to the merits of the case. The question is not whether 12 holidays are required to admit of the performance of the religious observance of a large section of the community. It has been admitted that five days only are really necessary for this purpose. The question is whether, for the convenience of one section, Government should take action which would debar the whole body of its Hindoo servants from participating in the great



national festival of the Province. That these holidays have come to be recognized as such a festival is not open to discussion. Mr. Rivers Thompson concurs most fully in the views of Sir Stuart Bayley set forth in the following extract from paragraph 20 of Mr. Cockerell's letter above alluded to :—"It is quite certain that this deprivation, reacting as it must, on the habits and feelings of the community in every village of Bengal, will not only be felt as a serious hardship, but will give rise to an amount of heart-burning and discontent which cannot but have an injurious effect, and which should only be incurred as an unavoidable alternative to some more serious evil." The Government of India deliberately decided that the inconvenience sustained by the mercantile community, who have selected this country as the seat of their business, is, however it may be regretted, a smaller evil than the abrogation of the great festival of by far the largest section of the native community. It is not to the point to argue that a compromise could be made by which the performance of religious duties could be provided for. Such a compromise would still involve the curtailment of a national holiday to which the natives of this country attach great importance ; and this the Government have decided not to permit.

4. It remains to be considered whether any further precautions than have already been adopted could be taken to mitigate the inconvenience which is entailed upon the mercantile community. The Chamber have not made any recommendations short of a complete annulment of the decision so recently announced by Government. Incidentally, however, they refer to a circumstance which appears to show that the measures taken have been fairly effective. They state that on the five days on which the Bank of Bengal was open for half time during the last holidays, business to the extent of 2½ crores of rupees was transacted. Mr. Rivers Thompson observes that it was urged before the Committee of 1879 that a stoppage of business for fourteen days would represent a check to the extent of 3 crores in the commerce of Calcutta. The figures supplied by the Chamber show to how large an extent this inconvenience has been obviated. The Lieutenant-Governor would also on this subject invite special attention to the following extract from the dissent of the two native members of the Committee of 1879, one of them himself a leading merchant of the city :--

"We are in a position to state that the inconvenience complained of has been minimized under the arrangements introduced since 1874. With the exception of five days absolutely required for the observance of the religious ceremonies, the Custom House is kept open during the vacation ; although the Banks are closed the exchange operations may be, and are, carried on, and, as a matter of fact, the Banks do take cheques from the purchasers of bills during the vacation. So remitting by telegram and otherwise need not be suspended. With regard to transactions in produce there is a cessation of four days of Poojah proper, but for the remaining few days of the holidays they go on as before, and little inconvenience is felt on account of the vacation or the closing of the Banks, inasmuch as cash payment is not generally required ; because those who can command credit get it all the same, both when there are holidays and when there are no holidays. We do not deny that there is some inconvenience owing to the general suspension of business during the Doorga Poojah vacation, and that it would be an advantage to men of business and commerce if the Banks and public offices were kept open during the holidays. But this is an inconvenience which need not impede the cause of commerce, except in those cases in which men work without sufficient capital."

It is to be remarked that since this dissent was written, arrangements have been made to open the Bank of Bengal on the days on which the Custom House is opened. During the last holidays the Custom House and the Bank of Bengal were opened on five out of the twelve holidays, and of these last two were Sundays. Mr. Rivers Thompson is unable to admit that these arrangements were insufficient.

The original memorial received with your letter under reply is herewith returned.

### THE DECADENCE OF ENGLISH LITERATURE.

ENGLISH literature occupies such a wide field, that it not only needs resolution, but a spirit of much diffidence to reply to the question, Is English literature decaying? Has it reached a senile period? Does it display the weakness if not the imbecility of old age? We believe not! But just as the English novel is not decadent, so it is in the matter of every other form of English literature. But we believe it is true to say that, every age is prone to think that the ages which preceded it, and especially the one in which itself was nursed, were in every respect so much finer than the present; just as ex-school boys, going back in memory to the schools they have not long left, and comparing them with those of the present, are surprised to find that not one of the school boys of to-day, can accomplish the things they or their fellows did ; whether it be a feat of literary gymnastics or relates

to great achievements in the play-ground. Why it is only half or a dozen years since they were at school! This clearly proves to their mind that the gen<sup>l</sup>s school-boy is becoming rapidly demoralized. One finds the same fallacy of perspective running through every line of human thought and human memory. Let us take matured men and women ; do we not find them reasoning of the past just in the same way as the ex-school boy? Do we not, ourselves, exactly in the same way compare our own times with the times of our fathers? Yet our fathers lived in the days when there were no railways, no ocean steamers, no wonders wrought by electricity, nor were the many great inventions of the present known. We, however, slip through these facts by saying to ourselves that these are innovations, and that innovation does not necessarily mean progression. Oh no! The days our fathers lived in were much the best we obstinately sum up. How often do we hear it said, that the days our fathers lived in were golden days ; our own days are described as argentine ; while it is forecasted that the days of our children will be of iron. This is no new lamentation, as history teaches us, it seems that every generation has lamented in a similar strain. All this but proves the spirit of conservatism that lodges in the human heart. Hence it is that antiquity exercises such a mighty power over the human mind ; be it in matters of religion, taste, or otherwise. Anything bearing the impress of age is precious. Look at art! See the worship people pay to the old masters! Take one of the finest works of art by a modern painter! Will it command the same price, and be held in the same estimation, as perhaps a rubbishy work by one of the old masters, with its fading colours and decaying canvas? We know it will be held to be rank heresy to write thus, but we do firmly believe, that among modern artists, there have been, and at the present time there are, many great painters and true artists, quite equal if not superior to any who have lived in the past. Is it not strange that antiquity-worship should live in a utilitarian age?

Milton, looking back to the luxurious days of the great Elizabeth, and bethinking him of the mighty group of poets who clustered around the presence-chamber of the "Maiden Queen," doubted in his own heart whether he himself was not born "an age too late." To Pope and his contemporaries, on the other hand, the period of Milton and Dryden seemed like the palmiest epoch of English literature. Pope, in turn, became the centre of the "Augustan Age" to the smaller poets who looked back upon him from the end of the last century. Byron, now to us a great classic, lamented that his knees had been cast in the degenerate days of Walter Scott, Coleridge, and Wordsworth, instead of in the glorious times of Queen Anne, which appeared to him the culminating point of English literary greatness. "It is all Claudian with us now!" he murmured pathetically. For Byron had a low opinion of his own contemporaries, especially the Lake poets ; but, so powerful is the glamour cast over the generation just preceding us by the effects of time that he thought very highly of a certain William Gifford, who had translated Juvenal's Satires from Latin into English, and who would now in all probability be entirely forgotten if it were not for the accident that he happens to be mentioned, in preference to Scott and other distinguished writers, in Byron's own very immature poem, "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers." The fact is, we all grow up hearing frequently the names of certain great men whose greatness was already recognised when we were children. These are naturally accepted and believed in. They were always great it seems to us, and of course everybody must admit their greatness. But, when some young man (or young lady) unknown, suddenly produces a very able play, or poem, or history, and the great judges begin to praise it, we prick up our ears at once in incredulous astonishment. "Who on earth is he? Why, I never in my life so much as heard of him till this very minute!" As though Shakespeare himself had not once been young! As though everybody knew all about Goldsmith, and Johnson, and Fielding, and Smollett before even they had published a single volume!

No ; there are surely as good fish in the sea still as ever came out of it. If one looks at the newspapers at the beginning of the generation now just passing away, one will find exactly the same sort of complaints, oft repeated, about the dearth of rising talent as those with which we have become now so familiar. Wordsworth, Byron, Keats, Shelley, Scott, Southey, Coleridge, Lamb, De Quincy, Hazlitt, were

all dead or passing into silence. Nobody had yet heard of Tennyson, Browning, Dickens, Thackeray, Carlyle, Macaulay, George Eliot, Charles Reade, Wilkie Collins, Anthony Trollope. It was usual to say everywhere that the age of the giants was finished and the age of the pigmies was just beginning. To us, who look back upon the wonderful galaxy of great men and women that have adorned the entire length of the Victorian era, it seems absurd to read those queer lamentations upon the prospective failure of English genius, set forth so often, at the exact moment when a prolific crop of marvellous thinkers and writers was actually on the very point of growing up to its full maturity. Doubtless people half a century hence will be equally astonished at the way in which we now talk about all the great men being dead, and there being nobody worth speaking of at present left us, when so many writers destined hereafter to attain the pinnacle of fame are now living and working in our very midst. "But you surely do not mean to place young authors like these," says the admirer of the past, "beside names like Thackeray, Dickens, Carlyle, Macaulay, Reade, Miss Austen, Richardson, Fielding." Nay, we are not even sure that he does not sometimes say, "beside men like Moore and Jeffrey," and half a dozen other absolutely forgotten and insignificant worthies. English literature is not decadent; it has as hopeful and bright a future as English fiction.

We believe it will not be out of place to ask a similar question regarding Indian literature. Is Indian literature decadent? Alas the answer is very different, Indian literature is not decadent, but dead! How long is it since India has been luminated by the works of a great poet, a great historian, a great philosopher, or a great writer on any subject? Does not the period go beyond the memory of man? Sad as such a state may be, may we not indulge the hope that the time of resurrection for it has come? Possibly it may issue from its tomb in a new form? Indian literature may live in English language? As we said in our last article, the number of men of culture in India who are able to think in English and convey their thoughts in good language is great, and it is increasing yearly. The English schoolmaster has done good and faithful service in the country. Will not these educated men see that, by turning their attention to literature, by chronicling the historical facts of the country, by bringing to light the many thrilling incidents of the past, by studying and unveiling the causes that have produced the direful effects of suffering and poverty the peasantry of many districts are suffering under, and from a grasp of the subject pointing out modes of cure or of amelioration, that by such pursuits they will do more for their country than by dabbling in politics prematurely. There is a time for all things. He who causes two blades of grass to grow where one blade grew before is a greater benefactor of his country than the man who is afflicted with the *coccythos loquendi* and can pour forth a stream for hours. India calls her sons first to ameliorate the condition of their weaker and poorer brethren! Of what avail is it to a hungry stomach, to a feeble and poorly clad body, that the constitution of the land, where he finds only suffering and want, is the best the world can show! Improve the dwelling-places of the tillers of the soil, give them better food and more suitable clothing; do not boast of the civilization of India while so many of her children have barely a rag wrapped round their loins, which scarcely covers nakedness—whose worldly wealth often consists of a bundle of dirty clouts and a brass pot or two. See to it ye educated men of India that ye justly and fittingly discharge the responsibility which more light and knowledge has thrown upon you! trifle not with the sacredness of your mission! Do not *play*—we beseech you—at raising your country! The *Statesman* has over and over, in able "leaders" and "leaderettes," pointed out this glaring default on the part of the educated men of the country; and has lucidly shown that no Englishman, or foreigner, can even possibly undertake much of such literary work. We can only hope that what the *Statesman* has said, so faithfully, truthfully, and in a spirit which seeks the real good of India, may go home to many hearts and bear fruit.

L.

MR. TURNBULL retires from duty and the Calcutta Municipality, next March, on a pension of Rs. 500 a month.

## DEADLY LAUGHTER AND THE SHOCK OF TRANSPORT.

JEST, and youthfull jollity,  
Quips and cranks, and wanton wiles,  
Nods, and becks, and wreathed smiles,  
Such as hang on Hebe's cheek,  
And love to live in dample sleek, &c.,  
down to tripping it,

as you go,

On the light fantastic toe,

are all very well, so far as they go, but no farther. There seems to be ample reason for Milton's Laughter "holding both his sides." There is danger as real in giving yourself up to the luxury of tears as in the dissipation of immoderate risibility—a physical danger no less serious, and more visible, than the spiritual demoralisation. The following, which is going round the civilised world, will explain what we mean:—

"A singular story was told at an inquest at Sheffield on Friday as to the cause of death of a young married woman named Clara Elizabeth Smith. On Tuesday night her neighbour found that the lock of his front door had gone wrong, and he had to get through a room window. She was laughing heartily at his misfortune, and suddenly fell down unconscious, dying shortly afterwards. The actual cause of death was apoplexy, brought on by laughter."

As regards their physical effect, the extremes of pleasure and pain meet. The shock of sudden luck may give the *quintus* to a weak man, like the shock of sudden misfortune. This is well-understood in this country. Many instances are in the mouth of the people. In our part, there is a story, well-founded we believe, of how the head of one of our principal families rose from the card-table exclaiming *Quatorze!* and died soon after from the result of that day's play with the word on his lips. We heard in the Rampore Nawabate in Rohilkund, a story of a poor Mahomedan physician gone from that state in search of a living to another Pathan principality in Central India, Tonk, where, after a long obscurity and almost beggar-poverty, he suddenly found an opening for a career when, as a last resort, after every available treatment had been lavished upon the ailing Chief of the state, and all the physicians, from far and near, had given the patient up he, the poor unknown Ramporee, being called in, was able to effect a complete cure. The grateful Nawab asked, the successful physician what reward would satisfy him, being ready to give him as much satisfaction as he had given the patient by rescuing him from death. The poor Hakim thought he was as extravagant in his expectation as he could dare to be when he asked Ten thousand Rupees. The Nawab, who was famous for his liberality, could not help pitying the meanness of his saviour's wishes and looked wonderingly at him. This terrified the physician into a suspicion of having committed a rashness. The Nawab, however, immediately reassured him by ordering the sum to be brought before him. Ten bags of a thousand each were brought in. They seemed to make no impression upon the Ramporee until the Nawab ordered the bags to be cut open and the silver poured out. Then the Hakim's face brightened up. The Nawab ordered shawls and embroidered cloths and jewellery in addition for him, who was now asked if he harboured any other wish. The man said he was perfectly satisfied, only he would like to see if possible what he had regarded almost as the fabulous sum of a lac of Rupees. The Nawab was willing to humour him to the top of his bent and indeed enjoyed the confessions of a poor man. A hundred thousand Rupees were brought in and poured on the spot into a separate heap, near the Rs. 10,000. With what amazement the physician beheld the vaster wealth may be imagined. Perhaps, the sensation of wonder was followed by a sense of the insignificance of his own portion from contrast. But this was not allowed to crystallise into a feeling of depression or envy. For the good Nawab immediately offered him the whole, lac and all. The poor man could hardly believe his senses. It seemed all a dream. On being repeatedly assured that the Nawab meant what he said, he inquired if he might touch the money by way of possession. The Nawab not only assented but told him to go into the thick of the heaps of silver and seat himself and handle the money and other effects as his own. No sooner said than done. The man made for the silver hills running and took possession of the height of his fortune literally. The matter was getting serious. All decency had for some time been abandoned and now reason itself seemed disappearing. His eyes flashed fire and he played the most fantastic tricks before his master and the ruler of the country, taking up the rupees in handfuls

and pouring them on his lap and person and about him, demanding loudly if they could be his, if all the riches scattered about, were the poor penniless Ramporee's without mistake? In vain the Nawab now exercised his powers of understanding to reason with him to tolerable sobriety. The thing had gone too far, beyond an expressive joke. He invoked his very authority without effect. The ill luck of the man asserted itself through all his extraordinary good fortune. He went stark mad, and, at the end of a raving fit, fell down insensible on his money—the symbol of his sudden prosperity—and revived not.

The good Nawab grieved for his physician and was smitten with remorse for having been the unwitting author of the death of the man who had saved his life. The money and effects he had carefully collected and sent to the Hakim's widow and family at home at Rampore.

Nawab of Rampore was an almost similar victim of sudden luck. But enough for the week is a single original romance of real life.

### THE GROSS ART OF LITIGATION.

THE District Munsiff of Madura had ordered the production of certain records from the Madura Taluk Cutcherry. The papers were, it is said, duly packed and the despatching clerk gave them to a Taluk peon for delivery to the Collector by whom it was to be transmitted to the Munsiff. The peon says that he placed it in a box used for the purpose, but on the following morning the box was found broken open and the papers gone. The peon and the Misalchi have been suspended and the matter is being enquired into. It needs no ghost to tell us that the records were of great importance in the case.

That is an old trick. A few years back, a young Zemindar in a neighbouring district got saved in a criminal trial by this kind of tampering with the records. In Bengal, people go to more desperate lengths, scrupling not to destroy whole record-rooms or court-houses in order to avoid the evidence of a single account or other document. It was thus that the Cutwa Deputy Magistracy was once burned down by a suitor. The Magistrate who resided in the same house could barely save himself, but he was so alarmed at the occurrence, lest some blame was imputed to him, that he came running down to Calcutta to advise with his friends and report to the Lieutenant-Governor. Some years subsequently, the Nawab Nazim having instituted a civil suit against his Dewan for what virtually was a criminal misappropriation of jewellery to a large extent, as per his own receipts left in the Toshakhana, all that the defendant, a man of great position and influence as well as wealth, being totally destitute of defence, could do was to have the case postponed from time to time until his pleas for delay were exhausted. At that time the great Palace of Moorshedabad itself, where the records of the Nizamut were kept, was to our knowledge distinctly in danger from violent destruction by the villany of man. But fortunately the house was built of materials far too substantial. And after a year's anxieties which broke down his health and hastened his death, the defendant's usual good luck saved at once his fortune and honor. A stranger of his own race and self-same native city was prevailed upon generously to sacrifice himself in order to effect a reconciliation and induce the enraged master to pardon the grave transgressions of the dismissed servant. He only could do it, and alone he did it, working zealously in this mission of peace, and succeeded. In the same district or at an earlier period, a man snatched a document from the file of a case while in course of trial and defied the Judge by deliberately eating it up. He was committed and punished, for contempt of court, to be sure, but the document was gone and he was safe from the punishment for forgery. What a pity Nund Coomar with all his astuteness had not the genius of this later Bengali!

Nor is the thing confined to natives. Nay, truth to say, it is a Western speciality. It is from their great Masters that the trick has descended to the poor natives—those vile imitators! Indeed, this sort of bearding the lion in his own den—abstracting papers in open court, is a brave burglary that comes more natural to the manlier European, seasoned in daring and nerved by experience, or suits his genius better, and altogether better becomes him, than it comes to, suits, or becomes the shrinking Asiatic. Only the European would scorn to lunch in Court on either parchment or rag. Not long ago, during a hearing in the High Court, the bench called for a paper but it was not found, until a respectable attorney was caught walking off with it in his breast-pocket. He would not give it up on any account, however. There was a great row over the business. Judges themselves could not make this

exemplary "officer of Court" disgorge. His rashness, would receive condign punishment, everybody in Court said. But nothing of the kind. The good Chief Justice let the plucky flower limb of the law to walk off with his prize.

### CANTONMENT JUSTICE'S JUSTICE.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Lahore *Tribune* asks why not abolish Cantonment Magistrates? Why not? indeed. It is said that in future they will be appointed from Regiments to hold office for five years similar to any staff employment. "Miles," the Correspondent in question, wonders—

"That the Finance Committee has not recommended the abolition of the office altogether, as the judicial work could be better performed by the Judicial Staff of the districts, and a young officer of a Regiment in the station could perform the sanitary portion of the work, and act as Secretary to the Cantonment Committee on a small staff allowance. He will be thus acting as the prosecutor in breaches of Cantonment Rules, and complying with the suggestion of the Chief Court in which the Judges have found the Cantonment Magistrate acting *ultra vires* when convicting persons committing breaches of Cantonment Rules. Moreover, the majority of men who accept such appointments have very little aspirations, and seek the office for their own ease. Very few of them keep up their judicial knowledge; and, now, with officers holding the appointment for only five years, much judicial experience cannot be expected, and in their zeal to please their own general officers, there is every fear of a miscarriage of justice. For instance, an officer, not very long ago, who acted for 3 years, at the end of the second year, actually fined a cloth merchant Rs. ten, for not keeping the proper sort of cotton an officer in the Cantonment required; so that, if this kind of justice is to be expected from the 5 year system, the native residents will have a bad time of it. As the Government of India has taken the Punjab Government to task for not nursing its resources, I think it is a good opportunity for the Punjab Government to recommend the abolition of these appointments, and I believe the majority of Cantonment Magistrates, unless their furlough pay is improved, that is, if they are allowed to draw their Military furlough pay, will be glad to see the proposal carried out."

As the Covenanted or Uncovenanted successor will have to be paid, we do not know whether there will be any saving from the abolition of these military Magistrates. But that the substitution of the regular District staff for the picked military bunglers on the bench will be a vast improvement there cannot be two opinions about the matter. It is a disgrace to the age that the farce of these military tribunals are still maintained in India. What sort of judicial officers untrained military officers are likely to make, may be easily imagined. Judicial work is not a joke that anybody should do it, while the veriest ninnies often succeeded in making interest enough to be created Cantonment Magistrates. And then, when they are *Gazetted*, they play fantastic tricks before high Heaven that makes angels weep! And there is no help for the sufferers. Once a Cantonment Magistrate always a Cantonment Magistrate!

The inhabitants may be worried—the press may vociferate, the District Chief may call for explanation, but the C. M.'s position is too firm for assault. And in the end the old story continues. We speak not from *a priori* reasoning, but from absolute experience. "Miles" gives an instance of Cantonment justice. It is matched by similar doings in our immediate neighbourhood. We hope the attention of the Supreme and Local Governments will be drawn to the subject.

### MONGHYR.

Jamalpur, September 7.

Burglaries and thefts were rife at this station a few days ago. A native doctor of the place was robbed of almost all his earnings the other night. About half a dozen burglaries and house-breaking at dead of night have taken place almost simultaneously in different houses under the very nose of the Local Police. What surprised us, to hear, is the daring attempt of the perpetrators to commit house-breaking in close proximity to the sudder Thana. The Police had better keep a sharp look out for the offenders, the sooner they possibly can the better. Otherwise, it would be impracticable for the residents to have sound sleep at night.

An East Indian elderly lady, named Mrs. Walters, whilst busily engaged in watching some people fishing in the E. I Railway Company's tank here the other day, somehow slipped and fell into the tank which being full during the rainy season, she was about to be drowned when a native Christian who was angling on the other side went in and rescued her.

We witnessed a wonderful Tamasha on the maidan a few days back, close to Reservoir here, after the fashion of Mr. Blondin, who exhibited himself in Calcutta some years back. The performers were Up country men and women. The sword fencing, jumping over the rope, swinging on the trapeze and the gymnastic exercises displayed by the females, were excellent.

The Deputy consulting Engineer to the Government of India for the Guaranteed Railways, accompanied by the Chief Engineer, the District Engineer, the Local Resident Engineer and the Municipal Chairman, paid a visit to the native portion of the town, viz: Nayah Gaon and Jangheera to examine the sanitary condition of the place, also to enquire into the long talked of demolition of these quarters, but nothing final has been come to as yet.

There has been a heavy depression of traffic on the E. I. Railway. Compared with the figures of previous years' earnings, they are now less than half. It is in contemplation, I hear, to make a heavy reduction in the establishment of the several Departments of the company. Whenever there is occasion for reduction, we invariably see that poor coolies, khalasces, porters, and such like are victimized.

On Saturday last the 20th ultimo, a meeting was held in the native Institute for the purpose of presenting an address to Babu Devindra Nath Chatterjee, Homœopathic Practitioner, for rendering valuable services to the native community at large during a period of over 23 years. A memorial in the shape of a silver watch and a gold chain was presented him, paid out of the subscription raised for the purpose. We are right glad to see him thus honored. Great credit is due to Devindra Babu for having acquired a knowledge of Homœopathic medicine and practice, and making such good use of his knowledge as he has done.

Perhaps it will be news to most of your readers that a splendid steamer, the several parts of which were made by a firm in Scotland, has been put together at the Hooghly Bridge for the E. I. R. Company to ply between Sahebgunge and Caragola in replacement of the old steamer "Kashijee" which has done good service to the company. The new steamer is to be named "The Bradford Leslie" after the agent of the E. I. Railway Company, and she is now having the finishing touches put on her at the docks at Howrah.

## Official Paper.

### THE CAMBAY SCANDAL DESPATCH

From Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

To the Governor of Bombay.

No. 51, dated 4th August, 1887.

I have received the letters of your Excellency in Council, Nos. 16 and 18, Political, dated 18th of March and 1st of April last, relative to the case of Mr. Wilson, of the Bombay Civil Service.

2. In a former letter your Lordship in Council explains that you have thought it necessary to order a formal inquiry under Act XXXVII. of 1850, into the truth of the allegation of Mr. Shamrao Narayan Laud, Dewan of the Cambay State, that Mr. Wilson while acting as Political Agent of that State made an infamous proposal to him in regard to his (Mr. Shamrao's) daughter.

3. After a lengthy inquiry, the Commissioners appointed by your Government, Messrs. J. G. Moore and J. R. Naylor, have arrived at the conclusion that Mr. Wilson is guilty of the charge brought against him; and in this conclusion you concur. You now refer the matter to me: and Mr. Wilson has at the same time submitted a memorial in which he appeals against your orders.

4. Your Excellency in Council has published a Resolution in which you adopt the conclusion of the Commissioners as to the facts, but state that you defer the issue of final orders until their proceedings have been considered by me. Moreover, it appears from the Indian newspapers that you have caused a letter to be addressed to Mr. Shamrao Laud, forwarding to him a copy of your Resolution, and saying that your Government are fully satisfied that there was no justification for the insult he received from Mr. Wilson.

5. I must express my regret that your lordship in Council should thus have anticipated my decision. The course which has been adopted is the more inconvenient because, after very careful and anxious consideration in Council of all the evidence which has been recorded by the Commissioners, I find myself unable to accept the conclusions at which you have arrived, whether as regards the conduct of Mr. Wilson, or as regards that of the Dewan.

6. The details of the charge made by Mr. Shamrao Laud are in themselves highly improbable, considering the position of Mr. Wilson, his relations with the Dewan, the nature of the proposals he is said to have made, and the alleged time and manner of making them. It is equally difficult to believe that, if the charge made by Mr. Shamrao Laud were true, he (Mr. Shamrao) would have behaved as he did during the six or seven days that Mr. Wilson remained in Cambay after making the proposals. It is clear that during those days the Dewan did not act as a native gentleman might

naturally have been expected to act after receiving an insult so gross as that which he alleges he received. He maintained relations apparently friendly with Mr. Wilson, but employed himself meanwhile in elaborating a scheme of what may be described as artificial evidence in order to substantiate a charge which he wished to have it in his power to bring forward subsequently—evidence, for instance, such as his letter to his solicitor, dated the 23rd of November, and the interview which he had with Jhalia on the evening of that day in the presence of friends carefully beforehand secreted so that they might overhear what passed. It is established beyond doubt that at the time of these alleged occurrences the Dewan was much dissatisfied with the course pursued by Mr. Wilson in his official character of Political Agent, and that he was afraid of losing his appointment as Dewan in consequence of Mr. Wilson's action. The evidence in support of the charge made by Mr. Shamrao Laud is, on the whole, in my opinion, unsatisfactory and untrustworthy, and I think Mr. Wilson is entitled to be acquitted.

7. I regret to be obliged to add that, apart from all matters as to which there is conflict of evidence, there are portions of Mr. Wilson's conduct, after the charge was brought against him by the Dewan, which were in my opinion unworthy of an officer in the high position which he held; and I am also of opinion that, after the view taken by your Government of Mr. Wilson's conduct, it is not desirable, in the interests of the public service, that you should be obliged again to employ him. I have, therefore, in the altogether exceptional circumstances of the case, determined to permit him to resign the Bombay Civil Service on a pension proportionate to the length of his service. This course is in accordance with the wishes of Mr. Wilson himself. He has accordingly been placed on the Retired List, with effect from this date.

8. I think that, up to the date of his leaving India, Mr. Wilson should receive the full pay and allowances of the appointment which he held under your Government at the time of his suspension, and that subsequent to that date he should be treated as on ordinary furlough. Your Excellency will be so good as to inform me of the exact amount of proportionate pension and also of the furlough allowances and pay to which, in consequence of this decision, he will be entitled.

9. I think it desirable to add, for your information, that the papers were submitted by me to the Lord Chancellor, and I am authorised by him to say that he concurs in the view which I have taken of the case. It is a matter of satisfaction to me to know that my decision has this high sanction.

### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

JUDICIAL.—The 13th September 1887.—Baboo Aghore Nath Ghose, Subordinate Judge and Small Cause Court Judge of Rajshahye, is promoted to the second grade of Subordinate Judges, with effect from the 16th July 1887, *vice* Baboo Mathoor Nath Gupta, retired.

Baboo Raj Chunder Sanyal, Officiating Judge of the Courts of Small Causes at Krishnagur, Ranaghat, and Bongong, is promoted to the second grade of Subordinate Judges, with effect from the 19th proximo, the date on which Baboo Ram Coomar Paul Chowdry will retire from the service.

Baboo Hemango Chandra Bose, Third Subordinate Judge of Hooghly, is appointed to be a Subordinate Judge of the third grade, with effect from the 16th July 1887, *vice* Baboo Aghore Nath Ghose.

Baboo Jadu Nath Das, Third Subordinate Judge of Patna, is appointed to be a Subordinate Judge of the third grade, with effect from the 19th proximo, *vice* Baboo Raj Chunder Sanyal.

Baboo Girendra Mohan Chuckerbutty, Munsif of Kooshtea, in Nuddea, is promoted to the first grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 8th May 1887, *vice* Baboo Sham Chand Dhur.

Baboo Kartic Chandra Pal, Munsif of Gungajulghatti, in Bankoora, is promoted to the first grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 16th July 1887, *vice* Baboo Hemango Chandra Bose.

Baboo Probodh Chunder Dutt, Munsif of Muraduggur, in Tipperah, is promoted to the first grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 8th August 1887, *vice* Baboo Baroda Prosanna Shome.

Baboo Durga Charan Ghose, Munsif of Basihat, in the 24-Pergunnahs, is promoted to the first grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 19th proximo, *vice* Baboo Jadu Nath Das.

Baboo Gobind Chunder Bysack, Munsif of Burrisal, in Backergunge, is promoted to the second grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 8th May 1887, *vice* Baboo Girendra Mohan Chuckerbutty.

Baboo Kali Prosana Bose Ray Chowdhry, Munsif of Bongong, in Jessore, is promoted to the second grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 16th July 1887, *vice* Baboo Kartic Chandra Pal.

Baboo Debendra Chandra Mukerjee, Munsif of Futtickcherry, in Chittagong, is promoted to the second grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 17th July 1887, *vice* Baboo Biraj Krishna Ghosh, deceased.

Baboo Prosunno Coomar Bose, Munsif of Krishnagur, in Nuddea is promoted to the second grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 8th August 1887, *vice* Baboo Probodh Chunder Dutt.

Baboo Khetter Mohun Mitter, Munsif of Begumunge, in Noakholly, is promoted to the second grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 19th proximo, *vice* Baboo Durga Charan Ghose.

Baboo Radha Nath Sen, Munsif of Kurigram, in Rungpore, is promoted to the third grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 8th May 1887, *vice* Baboo Gobind Chunder Bysack.

Baboo Rajani Kant Mookerjee, Munsif of Hosseinpore, in Mymensingh, is promoted to the third grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 16th July 1887, *vice* Baboo Kali Prosana Bose Ray Chowdhry.

Baboo Purna Chandra Mitter, Munsif of Burrisal, in Backergunge, is promoted to the third grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 17th July 1887, *vice* Baboo Debendra Chandra Mookerjee.

Baboo Nriya Gopal Sircar, Munsif of North Putiya, in Chittagong, is promoted to the third grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 8th August 1887, *vice* Baboo Prosunno Coomar Bose.

Baboo Tarini Churn Ghose, Munsif of Kudba, in Purneah, is promoted to the third grade of Munsifs, with effect from the 19th proximo, *vice* Baboo Khetter Mohun Mitter.

Baboo Sris Chunder Bhattacharji, Munsif of South Putiya, in Chittagong, is appointed to be a Munsif of the fourth grade, with effect from the 8th May 1887, *vice* Baboo Radha Nath Sen.

Baboo Ramlal Dutt, Munsif of South Raojan, in Chittagong, is appointed to be a Munsif of the fourth grade, with effect from the 16th July 1887, *vice* Baboo Rajani Kant Mukerji.

Baboo Promotho Krishna Singh, Munsif of Cox's Bazar, in Chittagong, is appointed to be a Munsif of the fourth grade, with effect from the 17th July 1887, *vice* Baboo Purna Chandra Mitter.

Baboo Lal Singh, Munsif of Nermal, in Midnapore, is appointed

to be a Munsif of the fourth grade, with effect from the 8th August 1887, *vice* Baboo Nriya Gopal Sircar.

Baboo Kristolal Chatterji, Munsif of Kaligunge, in Dacca, is appointed to be a Munsif of the fourth grade, with effect from the 19th proximo, *vice* Baboo Tarini Churn Ghose.

Baboo Ashutosh Banerji, Officiating Munsif of Moulvie Bazar, in Sylhet, is appointed to be a Munsif in the same district, to be ordinarily stationed at Moulvie Bazar, sub. *pro tem.*, with effect from the 16th July 1887, *vice* Baboo Ramlal Dutt.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY.

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1887.

No. 292

## The Week.

THE latest news of the agitation against the annual exodus is that the Viceregal Palace at Simla is near completion, and that the furniture of the building is said to have cost over a lakh of rupees.

THE latest Transatlantic yarn :—

"A yankee has taught some ducks to swim in hot water with success that they lay boiled eggs."

ANOTHER great Dryasdust has counted all the sheep in the world :— South America, 100,000,000; Australasia, including New Zealand, 77,000,000; Europe, 282,000,000; Africa, 25,000,000; Asia, 50,000,000; United States, 45,000,000; all other countries, 5,000,000; total 514,000,000. It is time enough to take a census of all the jackasses in the human form divine in the globe. The statistical gentlemen must not reckon without the host—of themselves.

MR. Sarkies of the Dacca Municipality is a lucky man indeed. He easily got the sixty-four wise men of the East to bully into submission the poor editor of the *Dacca Prokash* who, he conceived, had insulted him and his wife. And now a correspondent appears in the *East* to crow over the fallen man. "Vox Populi" finishes with warning the local editors against "the phantasmagoria of a disordered intellect."

IT is the era of the cheap everywhere. Even in the Celestial Empire—

"The Empress Dowager has ordered that the ceremonies at the approaching marriage of the Emperor are to be conducted on as cheap a scale as possible."

Of course, what is beggarly to one may be the height of extravagance to another. So we find a writer in a London paper inveighing against the Dowager for not having brought her budget of the marriage expenses below two millions sterling.

THE *Indian Courier* editorially writes :—

"Very energetic efforts are being made for getting up a memorial demonstration in behalf of Sir Alfred Lyall on the occasion of his ensuing retirement. Touters are in the field, and from what is taking in this our own city, we have reasons to believe that the efforts must be desperate throughout the provinces. The movement has its origin in Lucknow, and sub-agents are insidiously at work in their respective parts of the united provinces, to have it spread throughout."

WE learn from another source that the Talukdars of Oudh have distributed five hundred rupees among the poor as a thanks-offering for the restoration to health of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces. The sneaks!

A CORRESPONDENT sends to the *Courier* news of a fresh scare among the credulous hillmen of Kullu. It is believed that Government had ordered that nobody is to be out of doors after eight at night, as some mysterious being is about after that hour, annexing all the natives it can lay its claws upon—fat ones by preference—with a view to boiling them down into oil.

WE read—

"It is a singular and still unexplained fact that in certain species of vegetable growth there are found a variety of stones supposed to be

formed and deposited in their tissues from the silicious and calcareous juices circulating in their organisms. Thus in the bamboo a round stone is found at the joints of the cane called 'tabasheer.' Another curiosity of the sort is the 'cocoanut stone' found in the endosperm of the cocoanut in Java and other East Indian Islands. Doctor Kimmuns describes it as pure carbonate of lime. It is sometimes round sometimes pear-shaped, while the appearance is that of a white pearl without much lustre. Some of the stones are as large as cherries and as hard as felspar or opal. They are very rare and are regarded as precious stones by the Orientals and charms against disease or evil spirits by the natives. Stones of this kind are sometimes found in the pomegranate and other East Indian fruits. Apatite has also been discovered in the midst of teak wood."

AGAIN—

"Liebig devoted a great deal of time to experiments to discover a process of making a pure fat free from acids or other foreign matter, and asserted that the discovery of such a process was a certain fortune for the inventor. A German professor, Dr. Schlink, is said to have successfully solved the problem producing from the common grades of cocoanut oil a brilliant white substance somewhat harder than butter, odourless, tasteless and containing neither acid water nor mineral matter. In fact it is a pure vegetable fat and it is claimed that it will prove for culinary and edible purposes, much superior to butter, and or taller all of which contain acids that through heat separate from the fat and cause the fermentation and unpleasant odours and tastes that are so well known. It is said that dyspeptics will find this substance perfectly digestible and that it will take the place in medicine of cod liver oil in the treatment of consumption. A factory has been established in Germany for its manufacture and another is in course of erection and there is thus a prospect that within a few years vegetable butter will be as well and more favourably known than butterine, butte and oleomargarine."

The last difficulty in the way of absolute vegetarianism is thus solved

THIS is the kind of story that is being freely circulated to prove the need for a medical Registration Act. Feeling ill, a police sowar in Bombay aged 31 years, asked a comrade for medicine, who crushed two bees and administered them in two pills mixed with coarse sugar. As the sowar grew worse another would-be-Doctor gave him lime juice and sugar and then the man died.

THE *Indian Daily News* reports and remarks —

"The extended period of service granted to Captain A. W. Stiffe I.M., the Port Officer, expires in March next, when he is likely to retire, if no further extension is allowed. In the light of recent events it is very desirable that the affairs of the port be not placed in the hands of any Captain 'Dowb,' whom the place would suit, whether could suit the place or not."

ONE Archibald Gloag over-heated himself by walking, and before cooling himself plunged into the public swimming baths at Dunfermline, was seized with syncope and died in a few minutes.

THE Nile having overflowed Egypt, is now falling.

THE Afghan Boundary Commission Honors still continue flowing Sir Robert Morier has been admitted to the Grand Cross of the Bath Sir West Ridgeway has been made a Companion of the same Order and Captains Barrow and De Laessoe Companions of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

THE Maharanee of Dhuleep Singh died in London on the 18th.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, and other means unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

RAO Bahadur Mahadev Govind Ranade must cease to be the Special Judge under the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act. The Secretary of State does not approve of the appointment which must be preserved for the Covenanted Civil Service. This must be a great disappointment to Mr. Ranade.

It is understood that Colonel Wachoupe, formerly Deputy Commissioner at Chota-Nagpore, now of the Salvation Army, gives half his pension to the Army, holding that to be the best way to make a return to India of a part of what he had received from India.

THE *Eastern Herald* announces the death of Rao Bahadur Arjun-Sing of Dutia, who died of cholera in his residence at Nowgon. In him, Central India has lost a good Native gentleman and the *Herald* its Bundelkhand correspondent. The deceased was an ex-student of the Raj Kumar College, Indore, and had many admirable qualities. He was married on the 26th June last, and left a widow and a large circle of friends to mourn his loss. Immediately after his marriage on the 28th July a gang of robbers entered his house and carried away ornaments and cloths, &c., &c., to the value of Rs. 4,000.

THE usual game of the season seems to have already begun :—

"The *Delhi Punch* of the 14th current writes as follows :—'In the city of Loodhiana, on the *Id-ul-zuha* festival day, some wicked Hindoos threw a number of pieces of ham in the wells from which chiefly Mahomedans drew water. The offenders have absconded.'

FOR once the infallible *Amrita Churna* of Benares has failed. He who has saved and blessed innumerable lives, could not save himself. Hem Chunder Banerjee, the lucky vendor of the wellknown medicines, died on the 3rd instant. There is no cure for death.

Hem Chunder was one of the most extraordinary examples of luck in our times in India. Without training or toil or perseverance or expenditure of brain, he was enabled to enjoy all the luxuries of wealth that he cared for and then leave a large fortune to his family. Without preparatory discipline or professional drudgery, or the daily drill of the work-a-day world, he made money as fast as he could count it. His legitimate profession brought him only a pittance. He, if any man ever did so, rose one morning and found himself famous and in possession of the key to a mint of money as it were. Wealth came to him without his seeking. He had also the rare satisfaction of relieving human suffering and saving lives as well as making money.

THE Beera Festival annually celebrated by the Nawab of Moorshedabad, came off on the 15th inst. It is reported to be a success. But the prospects of the Mohurram are gloomy indeed. The *Statesman's* Moorshedabad Correspondent gives the cause of anxiety :—

"We are not a little surprised to learn that some of the political pensioners here, whose pension rolls were sent through the Collector of Moorshedabad to the Accountant-General of Bengal for renewal about three or four months ago, have not up to date (Sep. 16.) received their fresh pension orders; the pensioners who have no other source of income save their pensions are put to much inconvenience and trouble. The Nizamut pensioners, as a rule, are all of the *Shia* persuasion, and it is incumbent on them to observe the *Mohurram* ceremonies. There is not a single *Shia* family at Moorshedabad, whether rich or poor, in which the *Mohurram* is not observed. The long delay in the renewal of political pension orders is attributable to no other cause than the negligence of the *amla* of the Collector's office. There is surely not much to be done in filling up the forms of the pension rolls. It is a very simple and easy work. Some of the pensioners are, I am told, trying to raise money in the market at an exorbitant rate of interest, and yet they fail to obtain what they really require to keep themselves up and also to defray the *Mohurram* expenses."

We hope Government will inquire into the matter.

THE news from Serbia is of the most heart-rending description. The following has been communicated to one of the papers by a resident in Belgrade :—

"The partisans of the new Government were elated and rather heated by the wine and brandy served freely by some unknown hands. The report was spread that the Czar had expressed the wish to the Queen, while she was in the Crimea, that all the Progressionists in Serbia should be on the first favourable occasion murdered. This report made a deep impression on the enthusiastic and half-tipsy supporters of the Russian policy, and from abuse and quarrel very soon both parties took to arms and a regular fight ensued. Some twelve Progressionists were killed and many more wounded. This was a signal for the outbreak of outrages all over the eastern part of Serbia, where the friends of Russia and the exiled dynasty are numerous. Within a very short space of time the fields and the houses of the most prominent Progressionists were destroyed, and

their cattle killed or carried away. For a week or ten days it looked as if the Irish Moonlighters had taken possession of Serbia. But in some cases the outrages were most shockingly cruel. In the village of Suhotinza in the *Alexilitz* district, not only the mayor of the village—a Progressionist in his political creed—has been murdered, but his wife also, and his four children, the youngest being two years of age, were massacred in cold blood. In many villages the most prominent Progressionists have had their ears or noses, or both, cut off. In Jovatz the Progressionist member of the municipal board—Blagoye—had his left hand cut off, while the mayor narrowly escaped with life, leaving his property to destruction. In Ribari the Progressionist leaders, Basil Jovanivitch and Zivan Miletic, were attacked by a mob shouting *vivats* to Ristitch and Russia, and had their throats cut. The Progressionist Nedelyko, of Treshnyerizi, has died under the sticks. The same has been the case with Milenkovitch, from Kekovatz. In most of these cases the murderers have never been arrested at all, and even where they have been arrested, they have been let out of prison a few days later. In other words, their arrest has been a mere blind. Every one expects a sanguinary revolution here."

This is how these Eastern Christians serve each other and others. The unspeakable Turks are moderation itself in comparison.

It is seventy years since that the Lord High Chancellor of England was attacked in Parliament for his conduct of the Court of Chancery. In spite of the progress of all these years, that court still remains a mystery in great part and a considerable nuisance. Or else, how could Mr. E. Robertson speak in the House of Commons the other day as follows :—

"No public office caused a larger amount of heart breaking among the ignorant public than this office. It was believed by many that the amount of unclaimed funds in Chancery reached something like £100,000,000 sterling. There existed flourishing agencies which laid themselves out to deceive the public by the most grossly exaggerated statements of the amount of money lying in the charge of the Pay Office. He had been told by a gentleman connected with the Press that one particular adventurer must have been spending as much as £350 a week in advertisements, asking people to apply to him for information. As a matter of fact, the real amount of unclaimed money in Court of Chancery was not much more than £1,000,000. It was of the highest importance that the mystery surrounding this Chancery fund should be dissipated."

Mr. Hanbury too observed that there were few villages where one would not find three or four people who had been taken in by such advertising, and who spent a great deal of money in trying to get estates which had no real existence.

Mr. Robertson's cure for the evil is drastic. He suggests the wholesale confiscation of the funds. The morality of the advice may be questionable but the principle of it is the same as that of the statute of limitations.

IN Chandernagore is published a vernacular weekly, or rather a diglot under the awe-inspiring designation of *Dhumaketu* meaning the Comet. The name is intended, we believe, to suggest that with its broom-stick tail it lashes wrong-doers. It certainly is not given to sparing. Lately, it took up the parable against the several Brahmo organizations. For some years past, there has been open dissension in the convention, finally ending in a split or rather breakage into fragments. And now the various little chapels are at loggerheads within themselves. From the point of view of Hinduism, if not of Hindu Orthodoxy, the Chandernagore Comet naturally regards it with contempt. As the article has created some sensation and has told upon the Brahmos themselves, we better quote the main part of it :—

"The original Brahmo Somaj, as founded by Rajah Ram Mohan Roy, contemplated nothing more than the removal of idolatrous rites from the pale of Hindu society. In one of the letters of the Rajah which is still preserved to us he distinctly states his object to have been to purify the existing form of Hinduism upon the model of the Vedas and not to found a new religion. The Adi Brahmo Somaj, chiefly its venerable leader Babu Devendra Nath Tagore, best represents the views and opinions of the Founder. These views and opinions do not differ materially from those held by the bulk of the educated Hindu community, and if more generally followed, are calculated to do the highest amount of good to the country. The Adi Somaj accepts all Hindu observances except those savouring of idolatry; so much so that it recognises in practice, if not in precept, the distinction of castes and even of *gotras* among castes. In the present stage of the country's progress a moderate reform like this is just the thing that would answer. Keshub Chander Sen, however, took it into his head to make a premature advance. He began with doing away with caste and left it to the Sadharan Somaj to introduce into Lower Bengal a European system of marriage, to produce blue-stockings and coquettes among the modest ladies of Bengal and to flood the country with 'Mr. Singhs' and 'Mrs. Bilashini Karformas.' The result has been that while the original Brahmo Somaj received the countenance and support of enlightened Hindus like Sir Rajah Radha Kanto Deb, the recent developments of it have lost all touch with the Hindu community. There are well-meaning Brahmo fathers who train their daughters in horsemanship while they are pigeon-livered enough themselves, to shudder at the idea of crossing a saddle. This is progress with a vengeance,

to be sure. It is a thorny path which the Sadharanists have adopted, and they are still likely to do worse than retrace their steps. One or two among them have already had their eyes opened. The *Nabha Bharat*, a monthly magazine edited by a Sadharan Brahmo, has been complaining for the last two or three months of the evils which have crept into the Samaj through a slavish imitation of European customs, especially in matters matrimonial. It is but to be expected that people should take improper advantage of the practically unlimited freedom which the Samaj allows to its women. The system of marriage by courtship prematurely planted on the soil of Bengal cannot but bear unwholesome fruit. The Editor of the *Nabha Bharat* has brought down upon himself the wrath of the whole Brahmo community by his articles, which by the way, give his convictions a little too freely and plainly. Babu Dwarka Nath Ganguli, (husband of Mrs. Kadambini Ganguli, M. A.) has come forward as a Defender of the Faith, and questions the honesty of the poor Editor point blank. But we know how to estimate his evidence. We will just give but one instance in point. One of the charges of the *Nabha Bharat* is that young Brahmo men and women who are "engaged" are allowed to drive out together in carriages without there being anybody to look after their good behaviour. Babu Ganguli denies the truth of this charge, in spite of the eyes and ears of every seeing and hearing man in Calcutta, and pertly adds that even if the charge be true, what harm does it imply?—do the loving couple send away the *grye* and the coachman? An explanation such as this could only satisfy the head of a Dwarka Nath Ganguli. We are heartily ashamed of the whole thing. The Sadharan Samaj is scarcely ten years old. There are signs in it already of decomposition and decay."—*Dhunketu*, Aug. 26.

That is more ably conceived and better written than the lucubrations published in many an all-English journal. Though carrying the sting of truth, it is not offensive. And yet the conductors were threatened with the vengeance of the law. They seem to be a thin-skinned set these Brahmos, and litigation is the congenial dissipation with which they vary their more serious religious exercises. Lately, we know they took officious interest in another's affair, in order to foment a prosecution, one of the most sanctimonious leaders of Neo-Brahmoism in particular—a man apparently without guile or worldliness and steeped in holiness—exerting himself in that behalf.

It is said that—

"A Suffolk man has a dog that will not permit him to enter the house if his wife is out of temper."

Does "doggerly" serve her or him in that behalf?

\*\*\*

ALSO—

"A merchant has added a children's room to his shops where mothers may leave their children to be amused with rocking horses, pictures and toys, while they do their shopping."

Astute tradesman! But when will he bring out his machine for taking charge of children?

THE curriculum of the Seminary for Oriental languages in connection with the Berlin University, to be opened in October next, comprises the Chinese, Japanese, Hindustani, Arabic, Persian, and Turkish languages. Candidates for Foreign Office Service, as well as educated persons following other callings, are eligible as students.

As an illustration of advanced civilization—

"A Buddhist temple is going to be built in New York, and it is said that Buddhists in America will maintain a priest for the temple as soon as it has been furnished."

THE Viceroy himself is not spared. They have of late been dogging him apparently. It is now given out that he is accompanied in his evening rides at Simla by a Native gentleman, who teaches, and converses with him in Persian. "Does he ride like a human being?"

A SUITOR named Kamarazu, in the District Court of Rajmundry, has been charged by the District Judge, Mr. Lister, with offering him a bribe of Rs. 3,000 for a favorable decree. The *Hindu*, which gives the information, remarks:—

"It remains to be seen whether the result of the trial will enhance the reputation of both or either of the parties of the case."

THE Madras *People's Friend* is wroth that Mr. Ross, of the Morgan & Co. Ross notoriety, has been allowed two months' privilege leave instead of being suspended during trial, and quotes precedents to support his view. But our contemporary forgets that adultery is a white offence with our White rulers. Our experience is different. A native attorney of the Calcutta High Court was sentenced to simple imprisonment for six months for incestuous adultery and after incarceration readmitted to the High Court by an amiable Chief Justice, although the Advocate-General moved for striking the attorney off the rolls.

## Editorial Notes.

THE end of the chapter draws near. The Doorga Pooja is at its zenith. We are in the midst of the perultimate glory of the national worship. This is the second of the last three days of culminating fervour and festivity. To-day is eighth of the moon—the Great *Astami par excellence*. Having served our readers so far down into the very holidays, will they not allow us a little respite? With their permission, we close the press for two weeks. The next issue of *Reis and Rayyet* will appear on the 15th October.

It is understood that the subject of amalgamation of the Rajputana and Central India Agencies is receiving the attention of the Government of India. Colonel Bannerman has gone to Simla, apparently to confer with the Viceroy.

THE *Eastern Herald* writes—"We understand from a private letter from Simla that the Government of India intends curtailing some of the powers and privileges of his Highness the Maharaja Holkar."—by way of reward, we suppose, for his pains in going all the way to England to honor the Empress.

It is believed in Oudh that Sir John Edge, Chief Justice, has recommended removal of the High Court, N. W. P., to Lucknow, and that the question is under the consideration of the Government of India. Not a bad idea.

WE are glad to learn that Mr. Wilfrid Blunt at last sees his way towards organising active efforts for the return to Egypt of Arabi Pasha and his fellow-exiles. That Egyptian episode was not only one of the worst blunders of the Liberals but is a blot on the honor of England. The past cannot indeed be recalled, but every reparation possible ought to be made—the sooner the better. After the release of Zebehr Pasha, who had been a close prisoner at Gibraltar, the shadow of a pretence passed away for detaining Arabi Pasha, who, by the way, has, from the first, been only on parole in Ceylon.

CENTRAL India is being exercised by an unfortunate family quarrel in high life. The parties are no less eminent than the Maharani Bhagirathi Bai, senior widow of the late Maharaja Tukoji Rao Holkar, and the present Holkar Bahadoor. The dispute turns on the management of what is known as the Khasgi estate which has, for the last 21 years, been managed by the Dowager and is understood always to have been in the hands of the Maharanis of the House from the days of Goutami Bai, wife of Mulhar Rao, the first ruling Holkar, descending through Ahalya Bai, Krishna Bai, Tai Saheba, Mhalsa Bai, down to the present Bhagirathi Bai. Lately, the last named had appointed to the management under her a retired British servant, Narayan Bhikaji. This gentleman seems to have gone to his work with all the energy of a new broom and all the notions derived from his British Indian experience, inasmuch that in one month he made the place too hot for himself. He is said to have pleased Dewan Raghunath Rao who is himself an ardent reformer, but he provoked every body else. The end of it all was that he found himself driven to Coventry and even unable to enter the palace. He has to thank himself, we fear, for the untoward reward of his zeal.

THE Maharaja, Sir Takut Singji of Bhownuggur is again to the fore in generosity, having just opened a boarding house for blind, lame and other helpless people, without distinction of caste or creed.

LALA Gyapersad of Cawnpore is said to feed 500 people at his house. Each applicant gets his full ration of flour, pulse and *ghee* for three days. Of course, the want of a public alms house is not felt at Cawnpore. This is why there are no poor rates in this country, the absence of which is occasionally bewailed by some sapient writers and is seized by malignant ones for a peg whereon to hang gratuitous abuse of the people.

SOCIETY in England is agitated by a serious question. A change, infinitely evil, has come over the rising generation or the spirit of their

dream. They have become unmanned, or their tastes are perverted. The first indication of the aberration was given about a year ago, when it was discovered that at the height of the season the beauties—the dashing virgins—were all deserted. There was nobody to look at the prime gals introduced for the first time to the world. It is not a case of pure misanthropy,

Man delights me not, nor woman neither.

Nor is it antipathy to woman, but apparently to beauty, certainly to youth. It looked like partizanship. The young scapegraces turned their backs on the fair *mesdames*, to flock round the *mademoiselles*, fair, unfair and indifferent. That was a striking change. Nor was it a casual phenomenon—an ebullition of temper of the boys—a temporary handiwork. The bad taste is taking root. Last year, the young men neglected youth and beauty to lavish their attentions on the married ladies who alone got partners in the dance. This year, they are neither for the one nor the other. They don't enter the dancing-room but crowd outside the doors and keep peeping on with philosophic indifference. It is found difficult to get up dancing-parties. That may seem a small matter to foreigners, but it is not so. It means that Young England is tired of marriage. There is consternation among the mothers of rising daughters to dispose of.

MR. BARTELS, Inspector of Police, Madura taluq, reported in his diary the discovery by him of a concealed treasure room near the village of Dandanpatti, in the Ammayanayakanur Zemindari, about 16 miles from Madura. Mr. Turner, Collector of Madura, went and found a very curious subterranean room, or rather series of rooms, constructed of rubble stone and chunam. The hill on which it is situated is called "Kouga Malai" (treasure hill,) and there is a tradition in the village that it was built in the time of the Pandyan dynasty to conceal the treasure belonging to a large fort, in danger of being captured and possibly destroyed. There are very distinct traces of the walls of a large fort which the villagers call "Kula Sekara Pandyan Kottai."

As usual, there is an old man in the business, the same who gave the information, who avers there is treasure in the vault. Mr. Turner believes and has written to Government advising that the rooms might be opened. We are rather sceptical about the treasure. Under any circumstances, we hope there will be no unnecessary Vandalism.

WE read in the *Times of India* and other papers :—

"Mir Babur Ally, a Hindu resident of San Francisco, has filed a declaration of his intention to become a citizen of the United States. He is the first of his race, who, so far as is known, has ever done so."

That is news, to be sure. A Hindu Mir Saheb may pass in California, but would be a curiosity in India.

THE *Sind Times* starts a conundrum. Why is the Government of India like Mr. Ginnwala? Answer.—Because it is as great a plagiarist as the aspiring Parsee publicist. There is a strange similarity between portions of its Circular letter embodying the opinions of the Local Governments on the propriety of amending the Indian Civil Procedure Code, Sec. 260, and some portions of Mr. Justice Markby's judgment in a certain case. Thus—

*The Government of India Circular.* *Mr. Justice Markby's Judgment.*

In regard to the second class it is to be observed that the law which recognises the relation of husband and wife recognises also that the husband is bound to live with the wife and the wife with the husband.

If then the obligation be denied to either of the parties to the marriage, it is only just that courts should declare the right to exist.

A difficulty however arises when the Courts have to deal with a refusal to perform conjugal duties by one of the parties to the marriage.

That proves the Government an "eminent conveyancer." Our contented porary with true Belooch Frontier rudeness declares, that Government "has quietly stolen several passages." The writer is not wise and does not even know the views of the wife in regard to such similarity. At any rate, he might have remembered that what in the Captain is a choleric

Wherever the law recognises that the relation of husband and wife exists, it also recognises that the husband is bound to live with the wife and the wife with the husband.

And if that obligation be denied by either of the parties to the marriage, the courts ought certainly to declare the right to exist.

The real difficulty arises when we come to deal with a refusal to perform the conjugal duties by one of the parties to the marriage."

word is horrible behaviour in a private. But he protests it is not—it cannot be—a mere accidental coincidence, and makes out that

"Even the august Government of India with its highly paid Secretaries and members of Council is not dissuaded sometimes to commit gross plagiarism of set purpose in order to show off its cleverness."

Even if the matter were so bad as the *Sind Times* represents it to be, there would be little cause for wonder or disgrace. A Government may venture on taking with a high hand literary liberties that would ruin any author's reputation. They who lightly seize and deport Princes and annex kingdoms, what respect can they feel for the rights of authors and the proprieties of literature?

But the matter is by no means so serious, we trust. Indeed, we suspect the Home Department has done nothing extraordinary, but simply followed precedent. The Government regard the decisions and opinions of its courts game—in every sense. The mode of law amendment is this: the remarks and suggestions of the judges are first adopted by Government and then, after longer or shorter circulation and discussion, are, with more or less modification, embodied in law. It is not the etiquette to make citations from the Law reports or add notes in the margin.

We, for our part, have no extravagant reverence for the genius or accomplishments of those within the charmed circle of office. But even highly paid secretaries and members of Council are entitled to fair play. Now, under the conditions of production of Government letters, it would be difficult to apportion their literary blame. Every thing is founded on the Note prepared in the office, usually by an underpaid and bullied but knowing clerk. Behind this indispensable unit of Bureaucracy no Secretary, far less member of Council, ever cares to penetrate. This subordinate, we suspect, usually makes free use of the labors of others to give his handiwork as much force of fact or reasoning or as much neatness of style or dignity of language as he can. The Note is then circulated among the Secretaries until it reaches the highest authorities in the particular Government. The more it is made up of the views and arguments and language of superior men, the more it is likely to command approval. Directly it is approved, it is sent back with a direction to reduce it to the epistolary form. This is done again in the office—that is by the assistants—or one of the superior Scribes of either of the Covenanted Services himself does the needful. In any case, the substance of the original memorandum—the Note—remains. Throughout the process, there is no opportunity to examine the materials out of which that fundamental document is constructed.

DEATH is the universal lot and it is not to be avoided. And, *volens*, we are all a good deal reconciled to it. The torture of certain diseases is, however, intolerable. But of all the brood of diseases dire, may Heaven save us from the small-pox! The pains of malignant ulceration all over the body are represented to be frightful, yet in the popular mind it is the dirty, stinking hideousness of the smallpox that is its most repelling feature. If one is visited by the worst form of it, he is simply left to rot in his own daily developing rottenness, his high fever and innumerable itching festering sores, isolated and lonely, without nursing or attendance, without one friendly voice to cheer him. It is this thought that chills the life-blood of the soul as it were. Death may be braved, but not *this*! This desolation under terrible suffering when one needs comfort, even such comfort as the presence and words of friends and relations may impart, is too much for poor human nature. Then, death from smallpox is no doubt inconceivably miserable. But the escape from that death may be scarcely less horrible. The poor man may preserve his life at the sacrifice of almost his very identity! He must not only lose beauty and grace but all expression of the human face divine. His nearest and dearest may fail to recognise him in his new scowling mask. To add to all, his very voice may be altered. Thus does this hideous Pelion upon Ossa of misery find its appropriate crowning peak!

Under the circumstances, we hail with great pleasure the results of the scientific treatment of the disease in our neighbouring island. In his instructions regarding small-pox, Dr. P. D. Authonisez, of Galle, Ceylon, says :—

"It has been found that if a person affected with smallpox be carefully vaccinated every 2nd day after the appearance of the eruption, the disease subsides on the 8th day and that the vesicles do not become pustulous, or turn into matter, but dry and scab, leaving little or no marks, and an entire absence of pitting of the skin.

In severe cases the vaccination has to be done daily, and in mild cases every 2nd day; so that a mild case will require four vaccinations, and a severe one eight. This must be left to the judgment of the medical attendant according to the progress of the disease.

The popular opinion that vaccination is hurtful when small-pox exists, and that it leads to an attack of small-pox is entirely erroneous. The opinion of the profession some time ago was that unless a person was vaccinated within three days after being exposed to the contagion of small-pox, the vaccination will not take effect, and that the person thus vaccinated will have small-pox.

This theory has also been found to be erroneous. In an instance where a large number of persons was exposed to the contagion of small-pox, and all vaccinated and re-vaccinated, most of them taking the vaccination, nearly two hundred persons took ill of small-pox, but the disease was in so mild a form that none of them was confined to bed and all recovered without any of the after consequences of the disease.

These observations are at once plain, precise and practical. Founded on experience, they are of the utmost value in the East—the home of the small-pox. Our state medical men should try the suggestion. We hope they will come under the notice of all our Governments.

WE deeply lament to record the loss of a near and dear one in the death, on Tuesday morning at Secrole, in Benares, at the early age of thirty-nine, of Baboo Probud Chunder Mallik. He was the head of the Wellington Square branch of the Kayastha Malliks of Calcutta. These Malliks were long the earliest and the only dock owners among the natives of Calcutta. Even now, the members of the Wellington Square branch who keep this family business, are the chief natives in the line. In the division of the family estate between the three brothers of the one part and their three uncles of the other parts, it was tacitly understood that the dock would be taken by the eldest uncle, the late Dwarka Nath Mallik, who had long been working it. Everybody else shrunk from it as a bugbear, from not understanding it. Probud for himself and his brothers set his face against it. The uncle too, however, professing a disinclination to take the dock, Probud at last came forward to take it, and, though dissuaded by many who dwelt on the uncertainty of the business and the difficulty of working it, specially in these days of altered marine architecture, he stuck to his resolve and got the dock for himself and his brothers. And he not only successfully worked it, but in a style different from that of his family before and of all other native owners. In fact, the young Malliks now do business quite like the best of European, with dignity, self-respect, character and credit. Notwithstanding, they had lately been involved in a lawsuit with the Howrah Municipality, within whose jurisdiction the Dock stands. In fact, it is their character that made them the victims of municipal persecution. Had they stooped to the illegal expenditure of a few Rupees, they might have escaped all the trouble and anxiety which they suffered. As it was, they were harassed for months, through various courts, and put to enormous expense. All this they willingly put up with rather than incur a stain on their fair fame, and be suspected of having encroached a few feet on a roadside drain. It was this prosecution against their firm that preyed upon the mind of poor Probud Chunder and ultimately proved his death. His blood is morally on the head of the fogeys and pettifoggers of the Howrah Municipality. He had vowed that he would never cross the river over to Howrah if he lost the case, and though, thanks to the interference of the High Court and to the justice of Mr. Reilly, he won it at last, it was too late. The anxiety and sensitive dread of miscarriage for so long a period had done their work.

He had neither ambition nor extraordinary parts, but he was a shrewd, perhaps somewhat cynical, man. He hated shams and humbugs and made no secret of his views. In fact, he was just the sort of truly independent unfussy men we so much want. He and his next brother (the latter a Barrister now retired to Benares) had both been elected members of the Corporation and always voted with judgment and independence, but they left the board in disgust.

FOR the convenience of the Hindu public, the Tramways Company will, during the three days of the Doorga Puja, run special steam cars to Kalighat till 2 at night. Particulars will be found elsewhere in the advertisement columns. There need be no fear from the use of steam. The thoughtful arrangements of the Company are sufficient to prevent accidents. Each car, for one thing, is preceded by a sort of pilot on horseback. Accordingly, there was no cause of complaint in the previous years when too steam cars were run, during the Doorga Pujas.

The arrangements for the comfort and safety of the public, involve superfluous expense, which, we fear, the Company can ill afford, considering their very low rates. We therefore wish their public spirit and devotion to the service of their fellow-citizens, were better appreciated by the community, the Town Corporation and the Government. On the contrary, we regret to see a disposition in the two latter to press hard upon the Company or make light of their grievances. The Bengali people are too inactive; they never stir out without unavoidable necessity, and consequently make as little use of the Tramway as possible. They will, no doubt, use it in large numbers during these Pujas to go to the shrine of Kalighat, but that is also in the way of business—the business of religion. They have no idea yet that it may serve them in the business of pleasure, too. In any other country, the tram cars would frequently be availed of for purposes of recreation. Why should not our people too get up, during the holidays, excursion trains, making a round of the whole town? Even without any organized effort, a man or a small party of friends might pass a good day at a trifling cost, by joining a train and stepping from carriage to carriage, changing lines, and thus circumnavigating the town.

MR. P. C. SEN'S *Provincial Small Cause Courts Act No. IX of 1887* seems to be a very good presentation of an important statute. Mr. Sen has been so long usefully employed in this line that we should like to notice his labors more at length if he would send his principal previous publications, like the Penal Code, the Evidence Act, and Macnaghten's Hindu and his Mahomedan Law.

THE same remark applies to an elaborate and costly Cyclopædia of Business and Daily Wants in Bengali, which, under the name of *Vaishalik Tatwa*, is being issued from the rural township of Tahirpore in the District of Rajshaye. This is a quarterly publication of which we have been favored with the 1st number of Vol. II. Where is the first volume?

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1887.

### THE LAST KING OF OUDH.

ON Saturday the 10th, we wrote "The King of Oudh's health continues to cause anxiety. The improvement reported last week has vanished this week. His Majesty is so weak that he is almost confined to his bed." That very day matters came to a head, both literally and figuratively. Hitherto we have abstained from indicating the nature of the king's disease. This, we hear, has caused disappointment in many quarters, specially among medical men and those who take an interest in such questions. But a sigh over an abortive wish is easier wafted than the wish itself satisfied. What do our good friends know of the responsibility of dwelling on the details of royal disease? Touching upon the general condition of the patient was as much as a prudent man could venture upon. Nor, if one be so minded, is it easy to find out what it is that ails an Eastern king. Who shall dive into the depths of the *sanctum sanctorum* of the Seraglio and fathom the mysteries of the "king's evil"? The admitted difficulty of diagnosis is tenfold aggravated in the case of such a patient, and, amid the conflicting accounts received and the misleading or evasive answers given under suppressed breath to your inquiries, who shall presume to identify the complaint? This was our position. To serve our constituents, however, we have done all we could to ascertain the truth, and have, we venture to think, succeeded as far as it was possible under the circumstances.

It appears that the King had long suffered from *fistula in ano* which had daily in the common



operations of Nature. Sometime ago there was a stoppage of the bleeding, presumably from the action of the medicines he used. The king was delighted, but probably the Hakeems knew better and kept their counsel. In a few months, the king again began to feel ill, in another way, and grew worse and worse every day. This was his last illness, from which he never once quite rallied. He complained of uneasiness and was restless, lost appetite and sleep, ate nothing, lost weight and strength and suffered from palpitation of the heart. He likewise had some malignant-looking ulcers on his leg. It seems these were all directly and immediately due to the suppression of the regular hemorrhage from the rectum. But neither the king nor his courtiers seem to have suspected it and it was not the physicians' interest to tell. Suddenly, however, the bleeding returned, as suddenly as it had stopped. This gave His Majesty the only considerable relief he ever experienced throughout the tedious course of his last illness. With the expulsion of the pent-up matter, as might be expected, the palpitation was reduced, the giddiness and dizziness removed, the restlessness abated, and there came even a disposition to take nourishment. But the improvement did not last. What with long-continued high living and sedentary habits and the effects of accumulated misfortunes—of injuries and wrongs and griefs—and, doubtless, of the brooding on the future of his family—and last not least the influence of age, the whole constitution was a wreck. In a few days the old symptoms came back. At the same time there was a lack of medical talent at the court, the best Hakeems having gradually died out. A Hakeem had indeed been brought down from Lucknow, but he doing no good, Prince Jehan Kudr of his own instance and at his own expense procured another eminent physician from Oudh. All to no purpose. The new-comer had had scarcely a week's time to understand the case and prescribe accordingly, before the patient was no more. It is some consolation to the friends of the deceased to know that his end was peaceful. He retained his senses to the last. At midnight on Tuesday, his bowels were twice moved. At 2 in the morning he spoke and then fell into a sleep. That was the sleep of death. Ten minutes after, they tried him, but there was no awaking again.

The news immediately spread through the great palace or crowd of palaces and through Metiabrooj, the city of the Ex-King—the Lucknow in miniature, which, since the Annexation of Oudh, had grown up in the Suburbs of Calcutta. Notice was promptly conveyed to Colonel Prideaux, the Agent of the Governor-General with the Ex-King, who at once repaired to the spot. The Police had about a month been warned to be on the *qui vive*, and a force of some 500 strong gathered at call and surrounded the royal precincts, and were placed on guard at the different palaces and the rooms containing valuables, while the boats of the river police kept watch on the riverside. The Agent was soon after joined by the District Magistrate Mr. Richey. After staying some hours making arrangements, and sending for the concubines and sons of the late King, who, forbidden the Palace, lived outside, the Agent left, to come again for the funeral. Meanwhile, the Begums and princes referred to flocked to the Palace and were allowed in. But for the presence of the Police at all points of the road,

Matiabrooj in general had the appearance of a deserted city. There was no sale of provisions and no symptoms of cooking—in fact, the shops and house-doors were closed, nearly the whole people crowding near the main gate. But there was no ingress or egress, except for those who could satisfy the warders of particular business. Exception was made in favor of the leading members of the Mahomedan community who called in compliment to the ex-royalty of Oudh. These were Prince Rahimooddeen, the venerable head of the Mysore Royal Family, the young Prince Furrokh Shah, grandson and representative of the late Prince Gholam Mohamad Shah—long the amiable head of the same family—the Hon'ble Syud Ameer Hossein, Khan Bahadoor, Magistrate of the Northern Division of Calcutta, Nawab Abdool Luteef Bahadoor, C. I. E., Mr. A. F. M. Abdur Rahman, Barrister, and Moulvie A. K. M. Abdus Subhan, Deputy Magistrate of Motihari. Prince Jahan Kudr, the late king's nephew and son-in-law, the only one of the princes who lived in the palace, whom the king loved and had during his last days doated upon, and who had reciprocated the sentiment and done his duty loyally, was naturally looked up to on the occasion. Although bowed down by so great a loss, he bore himself up manfully and discharged his duty now too, when the object of it was not alive either to reward devotion or punish neglect. He sent word to the Nawab Khas Mahal to see to the preliminary funeral rites and told the king's principal officers to make the arrangements. A difficulty was raised about the expenditure. The chief man said he did not keep the king's money! Nobody seemed to know anything or would give any information. The Paymaster was named. While the body of the royal master lay undisposed of, the Baksheejee was taking his siesta!—so the messenger who went to fetch him reported. The truth we suspect to be that he was evading. However, he came at last, but to no purpose. He was the mere paymaster, who disbursed what he got, and had long since finished his last distribution! By this process of exhaustion the royal Treasurer was reached. It is the same who had latterly been appointed the second of the persons who jointly drew and received His Majesty's stipend. He was the most indignant of all, and he had left only a balance of six annas in the treasury! While this attempt was being made to trace the king's cash, the news of the difficulty flew about and Nawab Khas Mahal offered to pay all the expenses of the funeral herself. Prince Jahan Kudr too did the same. Prince Kamar Kudr was not to be left behind and made the same offer, and doubtless others did likewise. But there was difficulty interposed by the Faith to the attainment of these individual wishes. The first charge, according to the law of Islam, on the property of a deceased person is for his funeral expenses. What remains becomes the subject of will or inheritance. The king having left at least valuable effects, for which there might be a scrambling among his heirs, his soul was not to be in debt to any man or woman, however near or dear, for the cost of his funeral. If necessary, a few of his gold and silver beadsteads might be pawned for the occasion. However, the stiff Purser at last relented and offered to pay on condition of his being repaid afterwards. A costly shroud fit for royal corpses was now produced. It is a piece of linen—apparently long cloth—on which the whole Koran is beautifully and neatly written; the writing over, the cloth is rubbed over with the earth of

Kerbela, or steeped in the dust of the graves of the martyr chiefs of the Shia sect.

The next difficulty was about the place of interment. The king had expressed a wish to be deposited at the foot of the grave of a former Mooshtahed or superior doctor of Shia Theology, who reposes there. To this the living Mooshtahed as well as Manserimoodowla, the principal officer, had grave objections. They were for depositing his remains in the Imambara built by the king and named by him, Septeinabad. The king would often talk of the resting-place for his bones and would not hear of the Imambara as an eligible site since some of his own harem had been buried there. The place had been rendered foul by the remains of those impure wenches, he would say; he could not sleep after death in their unholy proximity! This the Mooftee Saheb declared to be a mere sentimental objection, and, as a living Kazi is worth more than a dead king, the wishes of the master were ignored and those of the servants prevailed. The Agent came again in the forenoon and waited long for the completion of the arrangements for the funeral, but, notwithstanding his exertions and the efforts of Mirza Jahan Kudr to second him, such was the listlessness of despair or the energy of grief at the great house that there was no progress. The Begums and princes who usually resided outside, seemed to be the most overpowered by the sight of the dead king. Colonel Prideaux again left, therefore, to come again in the evening, with two companies of Native Infantry for the funeral procession. Still there was delay in the washing and robing of the corpse. At last, the silver coffin containing the king's remains was brought from the king's apartments in the Sultankhana out into the grounds. It had a covering of green satin over which a red velvet was thrown by way of pall. This bier was carried under the protection of a magnificent shawl canopy stuck up in the four corners by costly spears. The whole way from the Sultankhana to the Septeinabad Imambara was illuminated as on gala days. The Police were in force. The procession, which took place after half past ten, consisted of torch-bearers, two companies of the 38th N. I. and the mourners of the Palace and the precincts. The Agent followed on foot, accompanied by Nawab Abdool Luteef Bahadoor, C.I.E., and his two eldest sons, Moulvies Abdur Rahman and Abdus Subhan, the only outsiders present.

Perfect order was maintained in the procession as well as in the palaces throughout. The arrangements were of the best that could be expected under the circumstances. Some disappointment was felt at the economy of Government in husbanding its powder and reserving it only for fifthrate living native notabilities and inglorious defunct members of Council and Generals. For whatmuch of military honors were paid to the deceased Prince the king's people and the Mahomedan community are grateful to Colonel Prideaux, who, we are told, telegraphed to Simla direct for orders. They also appreciate the Agent's consideration in going all the way on foot with the bier to its resting place.

At the scent of death, the legal and illegal vultures were to the fore and were hovering about the palace all Wednesday. They condoled with the women and children on their hard fate as Government would soon turn them out into the street, and represented to them that their own chance lay in their making over their property and prospects to their charge. They would

fight out their battle and make them prosperous. For this reason in especial, we are glad to see that Government has so promptly taken up the subject of the late king's affairs as already to pass a bill for the administration of his estate. We hope equal activity and consideration will be shown in dealing with the other parts of the question and specially with the subject of provision for the family. We could wish that whatever decision is come to in each case, it might be communicated to the party interested without, if possible, the least intervention of middle-men, even that of Government servants of the lower species.

Insignificant as the late king was to all appearance, without territory, or power or influence or even wealth—what he might regard as such—his death is the death-knell of a city. People talk of the self-indulgence and waste of Oriental Princes, but they have no idea of the great sacrifices often made by them, or of the large compensations offered by their very vices. Here, for instance, was the late king, with his comparatively small income of a lac of Rupees a month, supporting indirectly some forty thousand souls. Let no man smile at our arithmetic. The good king, for good he was for all that the unsympathetic European world might suppose, good even by the evidence of the great enemy who dispossessed him of his kingdom—the king knew and was wont to say, My people have only half a meal a day, for I can not afford them a bellyful. This vast population, including the highest ladies and noblemen and gentlemen nurtured in more or less of luxury, is plunged in anxiety and despair. We are truly glad that the good Viceroy has expressed, through his Political Agent, his Excellency's condolences to the family in their deep affliction, and, what is more to the point, his assurance that they will be liberally provided for. We trust that provision will be truly liberal. Above all, we hope some sort of state and dignity will still be permitted in the site of the king's residence, and, if possible, the miniature city of palaces in the Suburbs of the great "City of Palaces," be maintained, on a humbler scale. Such consideration is due to the British character for justice and moderation. It is due to history. It will be some compensation for the crying shame of the Annexation. The policy of wholesale destruction and quick effacement will give a shock to the universal sense of decency. The Nizamut of Bengal was maintained for more than a century after it had been shorn of territory and power, and it was then reduced. The services of the dynasty of Sadat Khan have been, if at all, inferior only to those of Nawab Meer Mahamed Jafer Khan and his associates in the Revolution of 1857.

His Majesty Wajid Ali Shah was the eldest son of king Umjud Ali Shah. He had a brother named Prince Mirza Secunder Hushmut Bahadoor, who, on Wajid Ali Shah's accession, became the first Prince of the Blood Royal and was invested with the command-in-chief of the Forces. He was usually known as the General Saheb. He was the ablest member of the family, and it was always considered a misfortune that he did not succeed to the throne instead of his amiable and weak elder brother. When rumours of annexation invaded the ears of the people, it was discussed whether Wajid Ali Shah might not be displaced in his favour. But the British were in the way of the success of such a *coup*. At last, the Annexation became a fact. The people had offered to fight in defence of their independence, but neither the king nor the royal family would hear of any such

thing. They elected to rest their hopes on the righteousness of their cause and the justice of Great Britain. The Rajas of Toolseepore and Shunkerpore and other barons were conjured on their loyalty to the throne to keep quiet until the case could be laid before Queen and Parliament. The king talked of going himself to Europe. But the enterprise was too much for his dejected spirits. His mother proved manlier. She did go, accompanied by her younger son (the Commander-in-Chief) and the king's eldest boy. Her idea was to present them to Her Majesty and to represent that if her eldest son had proved incapable, the kingdom had committed no wrong against the British Power and was not liable to sequestration. Wajid Ali Shah might be set aside in favour of another more promising member of the family. There was his brother, whose capacity might be tested. If a son of Wajid Ali Shah was preferred, his eldest child might be raised to the throne and a regency formed. It was in those days a supremely arduous undertaking for an Oriental Queen and Princess to go on such a distant and, to all appearance, hopeless mission. These braved all dangers and made all the sacrifices required and reached England, and proceeded to prepare themselves. They might have done some good, if not to the extent of making the lion disgorge, but, as ill luck would have it, the mutiny intervened. The Queen Mother and the General Saheb both died in Europe. There was dissension among the survivors, who, pressed for funds, fell among a set of harpies. It was with the greatest difficulty that the poor Prince Mirza Hamid Ali Bahadoor returned to his native land.

This was the Heir Apparent, the eldest son of the king by his first married wife, Nawab Khas Mahal, married before the accession, with a dower promised her of 25 lacs of Rupees. He was, though rather dark in complexion, one of the handsomest men we have seen, and every inch a Prince, in appearance, in spirit, and disposition. Unfortunately, he died some fifteen years ago.

After succeeding his father on the throne, Wajid Ali Shah took to wife the charming daughter of Nawab Ali Nukkee Khan Bahadoor, who became his Minister-in-Chief. The dower for this lady was, as befitted the position of the bride's family and above all the sovereign status of the bridegroom, no less than one crore and twenty five lacs or near two millions sterling according to present exchange. By her, who received the title of Nawab Aktar Mahal, the king had a son named Huish Bakht. After the death of Mirza Hamid Ali, he was popularly regarded as Heir Apparent. The king never formally invested him, however. His Majesty, with a sense of the fitness of things the absence of which we have so often to deplore in our people, smiled at the suggestion of Heirship to Nothing. But, of course, the duties which in Oriental households appertain to the eldest son were allotted by His Majesty to him.

He too was not fated to live. This was the end of any possible hopes of direct succession by a child of his own loins that the old king at any moment may have harboured. He made no secret of his thoughts, but used frequently to say openly that he did not know what the meaning of it was, but his own male line had been doomed.

Nawab Khakan Mahal is the third of the Consorts. She is the mother of the king's eldest daughter, who is Prince Jahan Kudr's wedded wife.

Of concubines or wives of a sort—*motâi* or temporary connections—the king, like every Shia prince,

has left many, by whom he has still a number of sons and many more daughters. Two of such sons, Mirzas Kamar Kudr and Asman Jah, have been mentioned in some of the papers. The one is the son of Nawab Fakar Mahal, who came to Calcutta after the mutinies, but refused, we believe, to enter the king's precincts. She has ever remained apart at a house of her own purchase at Kidderpore. Asman Jah is the son of Nawab Rashk Mahal. Although younger than Kamar Kudr, he has had the luck of being entered on the list prepared by the late Nawab Ameer Ali's Committee as the senior. Since Kamar Kudr has discovered the circumstance, he has protested against the wrong done him. We do not know if the error has been rectified.

We will conclude with mentioning two other sons, distinguished, each in a different way, for the parts they have played. After Mirza Huish Bakht Bahadoor's death, Mirza Faridoon Kudr, son of a once favorite dancing girl whom the king had taken to himself in the *mold* way, preferred his claims to the Heirship-apparent, but His Majesty would not entertain the idea, and scouted the young man's pretensions. He thereupon made friends with the Agency Amla and intrigued against the king so successfully as to get himself recognised by Government and allowed an allowance of Rs. 4,000 a month, which, as if to show what a poor thing was an Ex-king, was deducted from His Majesty's stipend! The indignant father turned the rebellious boy out of the Palace, and God did not leave the latter long in enjoyment of the fruits of his unhallowed success. He died a few months back.

The last but not least of Wajid Ali Shah's sons is Brijis Kudr, a name once of ominous import. He is the son of Nawab Huzrat Mahal, one of the king's wives or concubines who elected to remain at Lucknow instead of following their lord's fortunes in exile. When the mutinies broke out and Oudh reestablished the kingdom, the sepoys placed Mirza Brijis Kudr Bahadoor on the throne, and thrust the Regency on his mother and her paramour, Mummoo Khan. After the conquest, the Begum with her son took shelter in Nepal. There, remote from cities, in the far off hills, Brijis Kudr grew up a wild boy of the woods.

Nawab Mashook Mahal has left another son, Mirza Jam Jah Ali. He is younger than Asman Jah.

We have no desire to prejudice the claims of any of these ladies and princes, of whatever degree. The Government will do them justice and certainly provide them according to their deserts, with its usual liberality to fallen dynasties. But special care ought to be taken to select the head of the rather miscellaneous lot of princelings and to give him the means for keeping up his position.

We are afraid of mentioning any name, for fear of injuring one who might otherwise have the best chance. For some officials have a perverse disposition to show their independence of the press, forgetting that the press usually has little personal interest in such questions, and ignoring the real service done by the press to Government by bringing facts to light and discussing matters for the benefit of officials. In the present case, the officials themselves know who is the most eligible—in whose person and hands the dignity of the dynasty, so much as is left of it, may best be kept. The taxes of the public are not to be wasted even upon the scions of royalty. A random experiment should always be avoided. There is no question of legal right here, but only of political equity and equitable expediency.

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

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## News & Comments.

THE Friend of India Major Bell was buried at Brompton on September 14. Considering that no public notice of time or place had been given, the gathering was surprisingly large as it was thoroughly respectable, consisting, among others, Mrs. Mynie Bell and Tina Bell (widow and daughter of the deceased), Mr. George Bell (brother of Major Bell), Sir George Birdwood, K.C.I.E., William Digby, C.I.E., (Secretary of the National Liberal Club), George Jacob Holyoake, Miss E. A. Holyoake, Mr. Dacosta, Mr. W. H. Knight, Mr. S. Digby, Mr. and Mrs. Payne, Miss F. A. Kortright, Dr. S. N. Bruce, General Frank Moberly, Mr. and Miss Catterson Smith, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Martin Wood. Flowers were sent by the Countess of Haddington, Miss Ina Cohen, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Wood, Mrs. G. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Catterson Smith, and others. There was a goodly array of Indian gentlemen, such as the Hon. Dadabhoj Nowrojee, Laxhini Navajen, Rustumji Soonawalla, Nanda Lal Ghosh, Siva Ram, Dr. Dutt, and Jehanghir Pestonjee. The Rev. Mr. Voysey conducted the service at the grave, who concluded with an impressive address containing passages of beauty and pathos. He was followed by, strangely enough, the veteran amiable Atheist, Mr. G. J. Holyoake. He spoke on the public character of the deceased, saying:—

"It seems meet to many near friends of Major Evans Bell, that a career so remarkable and honourable as his should not close without a few words of personal tribute to his memory spoken here. Intimate with him from the earliest days of his public life, Major Bell was one of the truest friends I have known, and I have known many. He was not only true to his colleagues who worked with him, he was true to the principles he held; he was true to the cause he espoused; he was true to the authority which he served; he was true to the Princes of India, whom he defended when unjustly accused; he was true to the people of India, with whose just claims he sympathised and whose civil rights he advocated. The many books he wrote on Indian affairs—unsurpassed for their accuracy of facts, their mastery of facts, their decision, of judgment and dispassionateness—all breathed one spirit, that of justice both to princes and the people of the Indian nations. Apart from his civil and military duties, he had personal and intellectual opinions which he deemed useful; concerning which he acted on Archbishop Whateley's maxim. He 'maintained what he believed and maintained it because he believed it.' The better to do this he returned to England and resigned his commission, cheerfully contenting himself with a slender income. At that time news of the Indian Mutiny reached London, and he immediately took up his commission again, and went back to India, that it should never be said that any personal convictions he had led him to shrink either from danger or duty. The result of his return to Nagpore was that very few persons perished there, while in other places it was very different. His humanity saved him from injustice and his courage from the impulses which leads to retaliatory extremes. The despatches he sent to his superiors he wrote with his own hand, and worked night and day in the hot season to copy them himself, lest by the employment of any other hand it should transpire outside that the inhabitants had a friend in the garrison, and be misinterpreted by the enemies of the Government. When Lord Canning afterwards visited the district, he informed Captain Bell (that being then his position) that he had been guilty of irregularities which necessitated dismissal from his command. But on returning to his quarters Captain Bell found a letter from Lord Canning awaiting him, to the effect that Lord Canning had conceived great respect and admiration for his judgment and humanity, and enclosing an appointment to higher rank in another Presidency. Amid public men, whose manner of mind I have observed, I have seen nothing nobler than the conduct of Major Bell. Himself an English official, true to the traditions of his profession—having the just ambition to stand well with his colleagues; yet he at times incurred the serious resentment of some when he cited records to prove that errors of administration had resulted in deplorable wrong. More than this, he did not hesitate to defend the claims of princes, whom he believed to be

wrongfully accused, and in one memorable instance he rescued a ruler of great historic name from charges officially made against him during the mutiny, which, if true, would have led to serious consequences to that dynasty. Major Bell vindicated the loyalty of this eminent potentate, whose son and successor was lately received in honour at our Court, who otherwise could never have appeared in England. It was the high character and disinterestedness of Major Bell which gave his advocacy influence. His patient industry and research enabled him to produce decisive testimony in important cases. This was a proud but not a profitable task, and brought anxieties not conducive to health in a sensitive nature. But he was incapable of supineness or rest in the face of wrong which he thought he could redress or aid in redressing. Had he cared more for himself and less for justice and the honour of the English name in India, his days had been longer in the land. It may be justly said of him as was written of Lord Fairfax—

He neither power nor riches sought,  
For others—not himself—he fought.

But he had reward of another kind. He had valuable friendships among many colleagues of high official name, who knew and respected his incorruptible integrity. Around this spot stand many Indian gentlemen who, representing ancient races, do not for light reasons assemble here to mourn at an English grave. Throughout the great Presidencies many will hear with real regret that their English friend is dead, and he leaves his family and friends the proud consolation that his death inspires sorrow, admiration, and honour in Indian as well as in English hearts."

We have a sneaking respect, we confess, for Mr. Holyoake, mingled with profound pity, whom we regard as a brave and honest man of great calibre, utterly misguided. But his presence at a Christian's or at any rate a theist's burial, was a trespass. His fine and just "lay sermon" was a serious offence. What is England coming to that such an incident should pass without remark!

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AYUB is still at large.

THE Income Tax law has undergone a revision—not in the legislature but in the Bengal Secretariat. Henceforth

"A person who has been assessed under Part I of the second schedule of the Act shall not be again assessed in respect of his income chargeable under Part IV, where the amount of such income is less than five hundred rupees per annum."

"A person whose income under Parts I and IV is less than five hundred rupees per annum, respectively, shall not be liable under Part IV by reason of his aggregate income under these two parts being in excess of five hundred rupees per annum."

It would have been well if the *Calcutta Gazette* explained the relief given, by at least referring to the objects of the several Parts. For convenience of our readers, we may mention that Part I of the Second Schedule treats of Salaries and Pensions, Part II of Profits of Companies, Part III of Interest on Securities, and Part IV. of other sources of income not included in Parts I, II, or III.

THEY celebrated the Queen's Jubilee at Denby Dale near Barnsley, by a monster pie weighing 2½ tons and containing 60 st. of flour, 230 lbs. of butter and lard, 225 pigeons, fowls, geese, turkeys, and grouse, and 67 rabbits and hares. The greedy fellows!

JAY GOULD, the Railway King of America, having got a grand child, the newspapers, which devote columns to an inventory of a fashionable bride's trousseau, are filled with minute descriptions of the pomp and circumstance of its glorious cradle. The poor thing has been overwhelmed with an infinity of small-clothes of all hues and textures. It would be an insult to speak of it as born with a silver spoon in its mouth. Silver has progressively gone down in America since the Mackays became owners of mountaintops of it, until it threatens to be

regarded almost as a nuisance. This Baby Gould is provided with any number of gold rattles.

Is the wit of British political life degenerating like its amenities? A recent instance would persuade us to such a conclusion. Mr. Halley Stewart having lately stated, from his place in Parliament, that he had seen boys and girls lying about in Trafalgar Square in the early morning without a sack to hide their nakedness, he received in the House of Commons a large bundle of sacks.

At the Morotuwa College in Ceylon, they have established a Science Laboratory and an Oriental Literary Association as memorials of the Royal Jubilee. At the last distribution of prizes, Mr. H. W. Green, the Director of Public Instruction, who took the chair, congratulated the institution on the good sense shown in such a choice. He regarded the Laboratory and the Association as the symptom of a revolution of feeling against an ornamental classical education. He unhesitatingly ridiculed the latter pursuit, and pressed home the inutility of the study of Latin for those who did not intend to enter a learned profession. "You know," continued Mr. Green,

"we are dropping Latin and Greek a good deal at home. There has been a great outcry against over much classics in our schools in England, and I must say I sympathize a great deal with that cry. When you come to grow older, you will find that it is of absolutely no use to you unless you know a great deal of it. Of course, to those of you who can afford the time, I say, go as far as you can in your classics and learn as much as you can; it will influence your taste in English and be a use and a pleasure in a great many ways. But for an ordinary boy to go wasting his time over a few pages of Latin here is, I think, nonsense. I am therefore particularly glad to see this new departure in the shape of a Science Laboratory and an Oriental Literary Association. I don't suppose any of you will turn out great scientists but still it is useful to know a little at least about a few things. At any rate, you cannot do more harm to yourselves than blowing yourselves up and perhaps compounding some awful mixtures and odours (laughter). But when you have gone through these preliminaries, I hope that you will go through the world afterwards with your eyes more keenly opened to see and understand what is around you in Nature and Life. Your Oriental Literary Association is, however, most peculiarly interesting to me, and in this way: our old race of Pundits does not seem to be recruited. Now old men cannot live for ever. Since I was here last, two eminent Pundits have passed away, and one of them is to be cremated tomorrow, indeed a large number of our older Pundits has been dying off for some time, and we must have some young men who shall take their places, who shall know something about Sanskrit and Pali and shall not allow the old Eastern languages to drop out and decay before a bastard patois of modern English. Therefore I am very glad to hear that this Association is to be started here."

AN insurance agent driving a thriving business in Kansas, was recently surprised by the visit of a stranger who bade him follow him as his prisoner. The stranger was no other than an American detective. The insurance man who failed after all to insure himself against such a mishap, is a British-born subject of our Sovereign, of good connections, being in fact a cousin of Lord Wolseley. He had been paymaster in a British vessel in the China naval station and as such made away with a large sum. Leaving his vessel stealthily, he had passed in disguise through China, Japan, Australia, and California, finally settling and setting up business in Kansas.

THE Indian Museum, during September, was open only 20 days and the visitors numbered—Natives 39,068 males and 10,757 females, Europeans 616 males and 178 females. The average attendance is thus given at 2,530 a day. It might be interesting to know which of the days were most crowded?

STRANGE are the aberrations of poor humanity. A paragraph is going the round respecting the weak and purposeless thieving propensity of an elderly British peer. He is by no means mad, and moves in society, and is invited to the houses of his friends. The latter are prepared for his peculiar habit, but they do not mind it as they do not really lose by it. Whatever little articles of cutlery or plate or table ornaments he carries away, are duly returned by his wife through his valet, with a polite letter embodying a white lie about the strange way the things got into the nobleman's pockets.

THE *Madura Mail* complains:—

"These are days of Lotteries. We have had International lotteries and State lotteries, and the current year ushered into existence a new Chit system or lottery. A number of persons subscribe at a uniform rate, by the week or the month, and periodically lots are drawn and whoever draws the prize becomes the lucky recipient of a handsome

amount without the obligation to make subsequent payments. Such presents are made for a fixed number of drawings and at the conclusion of the last drawing, the originator pays the remaining subscribers just what they have subscribed, minus a certain fee to be appropriated by him. There are other and worse kinds too but this is reputed to be the most equitable of these systems. If this is not lottery, we do not know what is! Several persons have started business in this way and we do not know any reason why the law should not interfere and put them down. There is a regular mania among the poor to join these chits and there is every possibility of much hard earned money being swindled out of them by scheming speculators."

THE European lessees of the Shivganga Zemindaree have compromised the suit brought by Mr. Alagrisami and his brother against them and the zemindar. The brothers receive immediately Rs. 6½ lacs and Rs. 200 monthly for 22 years, they giving up their claim on the Zemindari and the Tiruppavanam Taluq. What share does General Anderson receive?

AN Inspector of Police, in the Tirupattur Division, Madura District, has been presented with a necklace—of pearls, emeralds, rubies and coral with a round pendant set with precious stones—for detection of theft of jewels in the Piranmalai temple. The necklace is valued at Rs. 700.

A FOOLISH man who, like the elephant, is unconscious of his own greatness—or at any rate, size—tried to pass for a woman by putting on female attire and actually entered as a passenger a female compartment of the train at Kurrachee station. But Sind is not quite the land of the Amazons, though some Brahui and Belooch belles must be formidable enchantresses, we are afraid. His corporeal grandeur and awkward gait seemed to ill consist with his modest lady-like garb. Suspicion led to inquiry and inquiry to search. He persisted in his disguise and long resisted all attempts to show the face. But Station-master Green, urged by an inexorable constable, was firm, and insisted on the "lady" shewing herself to a woman. At last, this veiled prophet drew aside the robe that had hid the head and disclosed "her" famous beard. "She" was discovered to be no common man, being the brother of the Head Munshi of the District Superintendent's office. Our readers will recognise the latter as the person who became notorious for his unmanly sportsmanship in shooting the domestic pigeons of the spirited coolie Bahadar-Khan, while the latter's *purda* wife was feeding them, and then taking advantage of his position and influence and knowledge and means to frustrate the indignant Bahadoor in his quest of redress from the crown. *Arcades ambo.* But to return to his exploded "ladyship." The man tried to explain his adventure by saying that he was after a fugitive woman whom he hoped to be the better able to trace in that disguise. A cock and bull story, in all probability, though his object was the fair and weaker sex, to be sure, some one or any one. The Police ought to be able to find out the truth, but then the Police is his—brother's. Under any circumstances, he had no right to trespass into the compartment reserved for women and violate the sanctity of the *Purda*.

PARIS has lately been graced with the august presence of the Emperor and Empress of Brazil. DON PEDRO II. visited Europe to try the waters of Carlsbad for the benefit of his health, which has for sometime past been in an indifferent state. His stay in the French capital has not been long, yet he has made the most of it. Born in 1825, he is one of the oldest reigning sovereigns of the earth.

FROM the newspapers there seems to have been an unusual activity among the criminal classes before the vacation, not in Bengal Proper only but in many parts of the country. Thus the city of Agra was reported to be in very near a state of siege—from armed bands of robbers. The house of a Police official itself was broken into and jewellery to the value of Rs. 2,000 carried away. A poor fellow going along the road there was backed with swords, and left for dead.

THE Chief Justice the Hon'ble Sir John Edge is to be the Vice-Chancellor of the new Allahabad University. The Fellows elected are—

"The Hon'bles Quinton; Tyrrell; Syed Ahmed; Syed Mahmud; and Pandit Ajudhya Nath. Lieutenant-Colonel J. G. Forbes, R.E.; Surgeon-Major Cleghorn; Raja Shiva Prasad; Mr. M. S. Howell, C.S.; Raja Jai Kishan Das; Raja Udai Pratab Singh; Brigade-Surgeon Bonavia; Mahama Hopadhyaya Bapu Deva Shastri; Mr. T. Nesfield; Mr. Deighton; Mr. W. C. Bennett, C.S.; Mr. A. Thomson; Babu



Prameda Das Mittra; Mr. C. H. Hill; Mr. W. H. Wright; Mr. Boutflower; Shams-ul-Ulama Moulavi Zaka Ulla; Mr. S. A. Hill; Rev. J. Hewlett; Pandit Lakshmi Shankar Misra; Mr. Theodore Beck; Pandit Aditya Ram Bhattacharya; Munshi Newal Kishore; Babu Bireshwar Mittra; Honorary Assistant Surgeon Lala Mukand Lal; and Babu Ram Saran Das, of Fyzabad."

## Notes & Readerettes.

WITH the compliments of the season to our friends and supporters and with our prayers for their true welfare, we resume work after the holidays.

THE European outlook is far from improved. Bulgaria is in a ferment still, and many people seriously apprehend a war in the near future over the Eastern question or any other. The feeling between Germany and France cannot be satisfactory. Though the fire-eating Boulanger has been prudently shelved, the impetus he gave towards the preparations for a contingency that may occur any moment, has not been exhausted, and France has lately held the experiment of mobilisation of one corps d'armée, so that it might take the field in complete equipment within less than a week. Such a move at this moment could scarcely be regarded with indifference in Germany. Nevertheless, we do not expect a war. The ruling men in the Empire have had enough of it, and happily they are now too old to be disposed to extraordinary exertions and sacrifice without the gravest necessity.

THE aspect of British affairs at Home is not cheering. There have been a continuous series of demonstrations of the unemployed workmen at the capital. On the 12th, about a thousand assembled in Trafalgar Square, where some menacing speeches were delivered, after which they marched through the streets in procession, preceded by a black banner bearing the inscription "Bread or Work," till they arrived in front of the Mansion House. Reuter is silent as to what they did there and how they dispersed. On the 14th more demonstrations of a menacing character are said to have been held. Several of the unemployed were seen with the Red caps of Liberty and, to complete the ominous import, the crowd chanted the *Marseillais*. As before, they proceeded to the Mansion House. There they demanded an audience of their representatives, but the Lord Mayor refused to receive the deputation. They then returned, stopping before the *Standard* office for a demonstration of their feelings towards the Conservative press, shouting and groaning. The Police were on the alert and at Ludgate Circus they captured the black flags, &c. This was the signal for the quiet dispersion of the people.

So far as we can judge at this distance from the meagre telegrams, there was an absence of earnestness among the demonstrationists. Even the leaders were not up to downright mischief. Still the spectacle of British workingmen in the Red cap singing the song of Revolution, is new thing in staid Old England. It means that between the diffusion of the three R's among the masses and the promotion of intercourse of late years with the Continent, the Reds are gaining ground.

IN Ireland, the agitators are doing their best to thwart Government and even to precipitate a serious bloody conflict, if they can with safety to themselves. Unfortunately, the ministry have lost much valuable time in indecision.

The Coroner's Jury have returned verdicts of wilful murder against the Police Inspector and five constables whose fire at Mitchelstown caused the deaths.

THE Government of Bengal's Resolution on the *Sir John Lawrence Inquiry* is out, together with the edited proceedings of the Inquiry Court. We cannot do better than publish Captain Neustein's observations on the subject. He is the central figure in the business—the hero of the drama. He may yet be remembered as the Plimsoll of India. Whatever good may come out of the Inquiry, we shall owe to him.

POOR Maharaja Dhuleep Singh, now in Russia, has fulminated another crazy but mischievous manifesto. It is beneath notice as a statement or argument, and unfit for publication for sedition.

A BLOODY riot took place at Ujjain during the late synchronous Mahar-ram and Dusera festivals. It is said that the Mahomedans had obtained the city Magistrate's permission to put up the customary awning before their Tazias. From this the Tazias seem to be placed on the public thoroughfare. It appears that the Hindus there hold a procession on their Maha Astami. Accordingly, on the 25th September, they went that way in state with music and flying colors. The Magistrate,—a Hindu gentleman named Muthra Pershad—and other officials accompanied the procession, probably to prevent any disturbance. When the procession reached the Tazias, it was stopped by the Mussulmans. They were asked to remove their *shamiana* to let the procession pass. They did not listen, and besides objected to the Hindus sprinkling water before the procession, apparently lest it touch the Tazias. The Magistrate himself persuaded the Mahomedans to remove the awning till the procession had passed. They did so, but they felt aggrieved and subsequently meditated vengeance. Without attending so much to their festival, they organised an attack and on the next day fell on the Dusera procession, knocking down the *Mahakul* which was carried in a palanquin. Notwithstanding the efforts of the officials present, a fierce battle raged. In the struggle, many on both sides were severely wounded and some lives were lost. Two of the Mahomedan dead and 8 wounded were removed to hospital. The most bitter feeling now reigns between the two classes, and there is consternation among the peaceably disposed. Everybody expects a renewal of the conflict. The shops are closed.

Ujjain, though in the neighbourhood of Holkar's capital, belongs to Gwalior. It is some satisfaction to know that the local administration is in the hands of a strong man, Sir Michael Filose, the ablest official of the Gwalior Durbar. He exerted himself nobly during the late *emute*. If it were not for him, it would have been a more formidable affair, and much more blood would have been spilt.

With this exception, the Maharram passed off in exemplary peace.

WE see that Messrs. Toulmin & Co., the well-known brokers, have taken to calling themselves, in addition, "business scientists." Every thing has in these days been reduced to a science, and it was time enough that the science of the business of commerce was recognised. Messrs. Toulmin seem to vindicate their title to the name by the sheet on Jute that they have just issued. This is a very depressing subject, the very word "Jute" calling up associations of loss and ruination to thousands during the last four years, but their treatment is judicious, practical and to the point. They start with the allegation that

"Seasons 1883-84, 1884-85, 1885-86, 1886-87, resulted simply in ruination to Jute balers and shippers and local mills."

Nor is Jute singular.

"Too terrible to relate, the selfsame story may be told with equal truth of nearly every other business and industry under the sun, and for even a longer length of years, yea, for as many as 12 fearful years."

They then say that it is no use pretending to go on this way, or to work without a profit, not to say with a loss, for any length. And they conclude with a sort of Lord Chesterfield's advice to his son about to enter business, a little trite perhaps but very good and useful, and expressed with downright vigour and the energy of those who are in the game and have suffered perchance. Not content with this, they have come forward with a cure for the state of the market. They are vigorously trying to induce the Jute balers and manufacturers to make a united effort

"to reduce the present price of Jute in the growing Districts and in Calcutta, down to a level with the value in the Continent, in London, and in Dundee, and with this view, and for this end, we suggest the co-operation of your Association with the Calcutta Jute Balers' Association."

They assert—

"Considering the universal fall in prices generally of nearly every commodity, further considering the depressed condition of Jute manufactures in Europe, likewise considering the vital fact that Europe has already purchased new Jute of crop 1887 for half its requirements, and at prices fixed and irrevocable: in view of all these considerations it may reasonably be concluded, that the present prices of Jute in Calcutta are 6 to 8 annas per maund too high."

Messrs. Toulmin & Co. are certainly entitled to the thanks of the entire bailing, manufacturing, and shipping trade in Jute.

MR. Justice Norris' glib tongue has again compromised its thoughtless well-meaning owner. He is the Vacation Judge of the Original Jurisdiction of the Bengal High Court and constitutes with Mr. Justice Ghose the Appellate Bench. At this time while the rest of the Judges

and most of the bar are absent from town, it appears that our impulsive Judge one day in court allowed himself a little (say) thinking aloud from the bench at the expense of a barrister of the court who was absent. This came to the ear of the advocate, Mr. Barrow, when he returned to town, probably magnified and embellished, and he naturally felt aggrieved. Mr. Barrow has a reputation for ability and sturdiness, and he was the last man to sleep over his wrongs. Accordingly, on the 6th when the criminal motions of the day were over before the Criminal Appellate Bench, Mr. Barrow addressed the court as follows :—

"I appear, my Lords, to make a personal statement in regard to certain remarks which had fallen from his Lordship, Mr. Justice Norris, in which it was said that my conduct was most improper. It was in consequence of an application for adjournment, when it was stated that I had been instructed, and had the brief with me. This statement was absolutely incorrect. I was instructed to apply for the admission of this appeal, but in consequence of my absence from Calcutta, Mr. Roberts made the application. I had nothing whatsoever to do with the case, and had no instructions. I therefore desire to state that the remark, which was made by his Lordship Mr. Justice Norris, in my absence, commenting severely upon my conduct, was based on statements which were absolutely incorrect.

Norris, J.—I made no comment of any kind or any remark in any way uncomplimentary to the Bar.

Mr. Barrow.—I am proceeding on information.

Norris, J.—Observations are very often made by the Judges which are not intended to reach the ears of the Bar, and observations are very often made by the Bar upon the Judges, and (I added, it was intended to be jocular) not sometimes very complimentary, which are not intended to reach the Judges."

OUR readers will remember that, at the last National Congress at Calcutta, it was decided to hold the next annual gathering at Madras. As the time draws near, our friends down South are up and doing. A preliminary meeting was held at the Cosmopolitan Club under the presidency of the Hon'ble Sir T. Madhav Rao, and a large and influential General Committee of arrangements has been formed including the greatest names among the several communities.

There is danger of the multitudinous staff of cooks spoiling the Congress broth. Work must be concentrated in a few hands. If we may be permitted to indulge in a little chaff with our friends, we hope it will not be a mere *Pan Suparee* affair. Present appearances are not promising, but appearances are notorious for deceiving. For, if the ill-printed circular on cheap tissue-paper, which has been sown broadcast throughout the empire, is to be taken as an index of the style in which the great Mela on the Coromandel Coast in the last week of December will be got up, there will be disappointment. But all will come right in the end. There is plenty of time, and Madras, we are sure, will yet rise to the height of the occasion and maintain her credit as the capital of the South. We hope our remark will not be misunderstood. These little matters are not to be despised.

We hope there will be a large and brilliant galaxy of the intelligence and public spirit of all parts of the empire. Bengal ought to be strongly represented. Our Southern friends had come in great force here and left the best impression. We have no doubt the arrangements will be all right in the end.

A GREAT power in the Turkish Empire has passed away. Hasus Behram Agha, the Chief of the Eunuchs, is dead. He was a giant in figure, as great in influence. He was a Negro of course, a staunch Mussulman, and hated Kafirs and specially the powerful Frank Kafirs. He was seventy-nine at his death. It is symptomatic of the transition going on in the country that the black man has been succeeded by an Armenian who is a *protégé* of the Russian party at Stamboul.

IRELAND is gradually developing all the characteristics of a Border Land. We had already sprung up Boycotters, moonlighters, lynchers, desperadoes and the rest of them. The abstention of the fair sex, however, from the scenes and doings of violence still maintained sufficient decency. That distinction is now being obliterated. The rise of female marauders must certainly complete the wreck of the old respectability. A young lady, Miss Thompson, was recently summoned at Kildynart, County Clare, in conjunction with several males, to answer a rather unfeminine charge, namely, the theft of a mare and a foal. Cattle-lifting is bad enough, but the circumstances of it in the present case are more extraordinary still. Whether the animals are hers or not, it would appear that Miss Thompson dressed herself like a man and led a raid into another town and carried off the mare and

the foal from a farm. In keeping with the whole business, she disregarded the summons, wherefor an order has issued for her arrest.

THE Poona papers notice with becoming sorrow the death of Bulwantrao Venayack Shastri, of Sastri Hall, Poona. He was a man of character and ability but unassuming and with a cordial hatred of fuss and humbug. Hence he was not noticed by Government as he might have been. For, it is the noisy who force themselves on the attention of our rulers who, in the very act of protesting against them, hug them to their bosoms. Otherwise, he had not had to work himself into access to the powers that be—he had by hereditary position the *entrée* to Government House. Representative of the historic Gangadhar Sastri, the Minister of Baroda who was so basely murdered by the Peshwa at the sacred shrine of Panderpore, he was a leading member of the Brahman aristocracy of Maharashtra.

Mr. Shastri contributed to *Mookerjee's Magazine* (New Series) an interesting account of Mahratta Marriage in High Life.

THE new Cawnpore paper, the *People's Friend*, is, we learn from a circular from the office, already in its grave. We cannot honestly say that we regret this, for the paper was good for nothing. There was no editor that we could trace, unless it was the printer. Before its end, the Cawnpore paper reported the death of Pandit Ram Chunder of that city, at the age of 45, leaving a widow and a male infant of 10 months unprovided for. He was a good Sanskrit scholar—the greatest in the neighbourhood—not only accurate in grammar and learned in theology but also acute in logic and deep in philosophy. Such variety of culture is rare among Hindu Pandits of the old school. As the chief doctor of the Radhaballavis—a small sect of Vaishnavas—he had perhaps need to be so accomplished, in order to maintain the cohesion of co-sectaries and their influence among rivals.

A SHORT time ago, a commercial traveller at a *café* at Gay in talking aloud to an acquaintance, said something uncomplimentary to the officers of the regiment of Dragoons quartered in the town. M. de Melville, a lieutenant of that regiment, from another table, overheard the remark. He went up to the commercial traveller and ordered him to follow him to the barracks. On the other's refusal, M. de Melville left but only to return dressed in uniform with several soldiers who dragged the commercial traveller to the barracks where he was locked up till delivered by the police. The victim of this ungenerous and senseless lawlessness now sought redress in the courts. In writing on the subject, which created not a little sensation in France, the *Cri du Peuple* called Lieutenant de Melville a weak-headed fool. As Lieutenant Melville could not, after his previous experiment, drag the Press, he was constrained to fall back on the Grand Custom of his society. He demanded satisfaction—an euphemism for an opportunity to wreak with the sword one's vengeance on another. With unusual good sense and respect for life, the *Cri du Peuple* would not humour him. That paper argued that it was the duty and right of the press to judge for itself public matters and acts made public. There the matter might have ended, but they seem to be weary of life in Europe, and France in especial is a mad country, and it so happened that a young gentleman upright and chivalrous who is an able writer on the Radical press, thought it his duty to interfere in others' quarrel. He sent Lieutenant Melville a scathing letter showing what a fool and a poltroon he had proved. Instead of going out for soldiers to oppress the offender, M. Melville, if he felt that his regiment had been insulted, should have walked up to the commercial traveller, announced himself and demanded a retraction. In case of refusal, he should have chastised the man on the spot—if he could, that is. By acting in the way he did, he showed his deficiency in *sangfroid* which, added Mr. Labruyere, the young Radical writer, was called in the army by another name. This was probably the last straw that broke the camel's back. The matter had now become too serious to be left to the care of the principals. Seconds were called in to smooth the difficulty, which they did by arranging a bloody encounter between the principals. For, notwithstanding all the wisdom shown by M. Labruyere in his epistle to M. Melville, he was as reckless a fire-eater as any of his people. On learning the errand of the latter's second, he did not hesitate a moment. He was overjoyed at the opportunity of having a deadly war with a man with whom he had not the shadow of a quarrel. He had evidently conjured up his wisdom for the benefit of the Lieu-

enant of dragoons by way of preparation for the *mêlée*. So the young 'gents' fought and proved themselves worthy of each other's steel. They were mutually "satisfied." Though thus lightly undertaken, it was a war in right earnest. Quarter being out of the question, it was pursued to the bitter end, while the rum intermediaries—the seconds—looked on admiringly at an event of their own bringing about. It was not till the principals had run each other through their vital parts with the sword that the seconds interfered and brought the savagery to a stop. The combatants are both lying in a precarious state.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1887.

### THE LAST NIZAMAT FREAK.

THE habitual tenor of the late holidays, was overtaken by a startling surprise, hatched in the distant Deccan by the Talleyrands and Metternichs of the Court of Hyderabad. The event of the fortnight certainly is the offer of the Nizam. Colonel Marshall, the British juggler at Hyderabad, who had already performed the wonderful feat of having his pay considerably increased almost as he condescended to accept office, had been sent all the way up to the heights of the Himalaya to beg and conjure the Viceroy to accept, out of the impoverished exchequer of Hyderabad, no less a sum than eighty lacs of Rupees in four annual instalments of Rs. 20,00,000.

Between the affairs of the late king of Oudh and the *Sir John Lawrence Inquiry*, we have no space for comments. But if ever there was a matter on which comment is superfluous, it is this. The common sense of the least-gifted of God's creatures, is sufficient, without help from the Press, to form a correct opinion, whatever it may suit anybody to say.

One word only and we shall have done. We are no standing opposition to Government, Local or Imperial. For Lord Dufferin himself, we cherish the highest respect. For all that, we have never minced matters when there has been a clear call of duty. Such a call we feel on this occasion. We earnestly hope the Viceroy will not be so ill advised as to entertain the offer.

### THE EX-KING OF OUDH.

WAJID Ali Shah, the last of the Kings of Oudh, is dead, dying in one of his palaces in the place of his exile in Calcutta. Son of Umjud Ali Shah, he succeeded to the throne on the demise of his father in 1847. There can be but little doubt that Wajid Ali Shah was a man totally unfitted, mentally or morally, to occupy his position. Not very long after ascending the throne, he shewed his utter incapacity for ruling his large, populous and wealthy kingdom. He allowed himself not only to be led away into all sorts of excesses, but recklessly wasted his revenues and treasures on parasites and favorites, both male and female. Not content with this, he used, like a modern Nero, to exhibit himself in public disguised as a Natch girl and receive the plaudits of his sycophants. But these follies were not the true causes of his ruin and dethronement.

Peace to his remains! *De mortuis nil nisi bonum*. We have pointed out a few of his failings, let us now look on the other side of the page. We have said and we distinctly affirm that the annexation of Oudh was not caused by the follies and failings of its ruler. It must be remembered that at the time of the dethronement of the King of Oudh in 1856, the Governor-General was Lord Dalhousie and the

policy of his Government was that of most unscrupulous annexation. The Indian Government coveted Oudh and had coveted it for years, but, on account of the unswerving loyalty of its successive rulers, they could find no pretext whatever to annex it. The Indian Government coveted Oudh not only for its wealth, but likewise for the splendid fighting material in its teeming population, of whom many thousands were serving in the ranks of the Indian Armies. The Indian Government coveted Oudh, because it owed to that country a heavy loan which they were neither in the position nor had the will to repay, so the shortest way to pay off old debts was to dethrone the King, their staunch ally, annex his kingdom and confiscate those debts.

That the rulers of Oudh down to Wajid Ali Shah were perfectly loyal to the British Government, cannot be denied, even by their worst enemies. In the Afghan, Punjab, Burmah and Crimean campaigns, they not only offered assistance with contingents of picked troops commanded by men like Barlow, the Orrs, the Harseys, the Bunburys, and many others, but likewise advanced to the Government enormous sums of money in their financial difficulties, during the three first mentioned campaigns. In 1855, when the annexation was decided on, and British troops were collected at Cawnpore, to invade the territory of a faithful ally, the king was urged to make some preparation for defence, but could not bring his mind to believe that the Power he had so loyally supported, could or would act hostilely against him. Even when the British troops crossed the Ganges in their advance on Lucknow, they not only found no opposition or hostile preparations of any sort, but, on the contrary, stores had been collected at each march by order of the King Wajid Ali Shah for the very troops advancing to dethrone him and tear him from his home and country and send him an exile to Calcutta.

When the British troops at length came in sight of Lucknow, he was urged by many of his officers (Natives) to make a stand and strike one blow for his throne and country. They argued that in the native ranks of the British Army were many Oudh men who would not fail to join him if he would only give them the countenance of his authority to resist. Wajid Ali Shah not only refused to do this, but, still more to prove the loyalty and good faith of his nature and his reliance on British treaties,—surmising that some fanatic or body of fanatics might be so ill advised as to fire on the advancing columns of his friends!—ordered that all the guns in the forts and positions which commanded all the approaches to the city of Lucknow, should be turned round with their breaches thrust into the embrasures, and they were so found when our troops occupied the city! Such was his faith in, and loyalty to, the Indian Government.

If we had compelled him to abdicate on account of his moral and mental failings and follies, we would have been quite justified. For, he had proved himself wholly unfit, although at the last hour, confronted by British bayonets, he shewed sufficient nobleness and firmness to utterly refuse to ratify the instrument of abdication prepared for his signature. But in seizing upon the country of so loyal an ally, one who, from the erection of Oudh into a separate kingdom, had, as we have already explained, always been ready and willing to aid the Indian Government with troops and money, to assist us in our wars, were we justified in destroying that kingdom? We unhesitatingly say, No! and affirm that the Indian Government did a gross and dishonest

piece of injustice as ever was known in Indian or any other history, especially as there were other members of the Royal Family of Oudh who would have made most admirable rulers. I allude in particular to that splendid type of a thorough native gentleman, Mohsin-u-dowlah, so well known in Oudh for his unswerving loyalty during the mutiny of 1857 and more recently (that is, within the last twenty years), so well known for his hospitality and numerous amiable qualities to all English residents of Lucknow. We are of firm opinion that the annexation of Oudh was not caused so much by Lord Dalhousie's pharasaical horror of the mal-administration of the country and of the faults and foibles of its ruler, as from the financial temptation *viz.*, the desire of wiping off a heavy debt due by the Government of India to the Government of Oudh and which our Government did not feel inclined, or in a position, to pay. Such is the real and secret history of the annexation of that country; for be it remembered, if we had put on the throne a good honest and capable ruler, he or his successors might, at some time or other, have called upon the Indian Government to pay the millions they owed. But enough on the manners and morals of Government. The last King of Oudh Wajid Ali Shah is dead and the title is extinct.

After writing our concluding sentence, we were surprised and pleased to read of the firm loyalty of the Nizam to the British Empire, and can but sincerely trust that such loyalty will not experience from our hands in return for it a similar fate to that of the kingdom of Oudh.

ANDREW HEARSEY.

#### THE OUDH FAMILY.

WE had intended to give our own account of the reign of the late King and the Annexation—the history of which both is imperfectly known—but it is soon for the truth perhaps, standing as we do over the just-closed grave of an unfortunate Prince. We have instead let Captain Hearsey speak, who, from his family connections with Oudh, has had special opportunities for information. We have only to warn the public against the spurious tales which are being served to it by untravelled Baboos who have heard of jackals crying in the day on the day of accession or by schoolmasters who had seen the late King in his last days for the nonce. We hasten to the present affairs of the family.

The fortnight has passed off quietly at Garden Reach. The vultures are busy, but the Act has taken the wind out of their sails. It is in contemplation, however, on the opening of the High Court, to attack the legislation as *ultra vires*. Government had better look out. The assurances of the Viceroy and the assiduity of His Excellency's Agent, have gone much towards allaying anxiety. Col. Prideaux came himself and, during two days for several hours each, distributed the last month's allowances without abatement, and without the intervention of either the Agency Amla or the Palace officers. This was a capital thing and has had a most reassuring effect. We only regret that Government should have been so hasty in dealing with the mourning of the Begums. The advertising of the menagerie for sale, so soon after the King's death, shows want of sympathy and a failure in grace. It would be a pity, besides, if the great collection were dispersed. The first step, at any rate, ought to be to catalogue it through a scientific zoologist, be-

fore a proper judgment might be arrived about its disposal.

The order on the Princes, who having all their lives pined outside, were making the most of the opportunity (allowed for the nonce on the death of the king,) for free access to the Harem, was a necessary precaution.

We understand that these Princes, making common cause with the outsider-Begums, held a meeting at the house of one of His late Majesty's sons, who aspires to be recognised as the head of the family, and resolved to place themselves under Pearsa Sahib, the favorite of the opulent Khas Mahal, and fight out their and her claims even to England. They also, including Mirza Asman Jah, agreed to the precedence of Kamar Kadr Bahadoor. In proof of earnestness, they set their names to a written agreement there and then. An amusing incident occurred in this connection. The document was signed by one after another and passed round, till it came to the turn of Mirza Masood. This is a half-idiotic or crazy scion of royalty known as the *Pugla* Prince. He had agreed to sign, but no sooner the paper with the previous signatures was placed in his hands than he ran away with it as fast as ever he could. He was followed, and a sort of princely race took place, to the delectation of the neighbourhood and the passengers in the street, but the *Pugla* eluded all his pursuers. For two days, there was no knowing where he had gone, though all his haunts in town and suburb were searched. It was afterwards ascertained that he had taken the paper to the head of the boarding school for the princes, so that he is a knowing *Pugla*, if *Pugla* he be.

The papers have been filled with all sorts of foolish and false statements, partly by the ignorance of worthless men who have only an accidental or nominal connection with the greatness the privileges whereof they would claim,—but more by the interested activity of designing men. In certain quarters, the Doorga Pooja was freely spoken of as a god-send as anything might be palmed off on an unsuspecting public during the holidays without the fear of correction from that—*Reis and Rayyet*. And truly enough the opportunity was utilised to the utmost. But triumph must be brief. We are again to demolish the house of cards so assiduously raised. We will take up, one by one, the statements made in the several newspapers. They are given in Italics, and our comments follow in Roman type.

*Chief Mourner, &c.*

The arrangements for the funeral of the king were all made by Moonserim-ud-dowla under the directions of Prince Mirza Jehan Kadr and the Mujtahid.

At about 7 P.M., it being reported to the Prince that the grave had been dug, he proceeded in company with the Mujtahid and other pious and learned men to the Sultankhana, properly so called, where the corpse lay and had it brought out and taken to the Akhtar Manzil (another detached building close by) for the performance of the washing and robing ceremonies. The actual washing and robing was done by *ghassals* and others, under the superintendence and direction of the Mujtahid. Prince Jehan Kadr and also Prince Kamar Kadr and several other sons were present near the spot, but none of them did take any personal part in the said ceremonies. When "a member of the Oude Family, a son of the late King" is made to say in the newspapers that "the ceremony was "gone through according to our religious rites by our eldest brother Prince Kamar Kadar," the non-

Islamic hand of the scribe is betrayed. There is no particular and special ceremony which the eldest son has to "go through" in a Mahomedan funeral as distinguished from other sons, relations or friends attending the funeral.

*Prince Jehan Kadr son of the late General Saheb by a muta wife.*

No. The Prince is the son of a *nikahi* wife (Nawab Hashmat Mehal Saheba) of the General Saheb. She was the daughter of a very respectable Syed family held in great respect by the Shia community of Lucknow, and her dower was fixed at Rs. 50 lakhs, which itself is an impossible amount for a *muta* contract. This amount was stated in the course of the litigation affecting the General Saheb's estate, during Prince Jehan Kadr's minority, and long after his mother's death, presumably under instructions from His Majesty who met all the expenses and directed his own advisers to look after that litigation.

*Prince Asman Jah's residence in the Palace.*

Prince Asman Jah had never special apartments assigned for him by His Majesty in any palace. Nawab Shahzada Mehal Saheba, who was living in one of the king's buildings, allowed him to live in her premises. Upon her death, about a year ago, Prince Asman Jah was required by His Majesty to vacate the said premises, which he did, and he has ever since been living in a rented house in town.

*No special favor shewn to Mirza Jehan Kadr.*

Prince Jehan Kadr from the time, more than 25 years ago, that he came from Lucknow, resided with His Majesty in the same building. When he reached the marriageable age, he was assigned separate apartments within the Sultankhana premises which he still retains. His Majesty took a special covenant from his future son-in-law, that he should always reside within the Palace. During His Majesty's last illness he made a grant of Rs. 10,000 for the repairs of the Prince's apartments. Can any of His Majesty's sons shew any such record of favors? The

*Meditated expulsion of the Prince by His Majesty—*  
is absurd.

*Nawab Khakan Mehal*

Is a Syed by blood, and related to the family of Nawab Mukhtar-ud-Dowlah, (Prime Minister in the reign of Nawab Asaf-ud-daula,) whose descendants are still enjoying pensions from the British Government.

*His Majesty turned her out lately from the Palace in an unseemly manner.*

This is a grave misrepresentation. The real fact is that the premises lately occupied by Nawab Khakan Mehal Saheba, being required to be rebuilt and ornamented on a grand scale, she was asked to remove from the same to another of the king's palaces. His Majesty himself escorted her from her old quarters to her new quarters and made her comfortable in every way. This does not seem to be very unseemly.

*Nawab Fakar Mehal saving the lives of Mrs. Orr and Miss Jackson.*

Daroga Wajid Ali was the saviour of these people. He did so of his own motion and not at the bidding of any master. He got his reward for that, under the orders of Government without the supposed, recommendation of Nawab Fakr Mehal. Indeed, if it was so much her doing what was her reward?

*Nawab Fakr Mehal—purchaser of house—*

Never lived within the Royal premises like his other Mehals. She lived a long time in Sealdah, and afterwards removed to Kidderpore, renting the house afterwards purchased.

*Prince Jehan Kadr's mother Nawab Hashmat Mehal was before marriage in the employ of Nawab Khas Mehal.*

This is not true. And what if it had been?

*Faridun Kadr performed all the duties of the Commander-in-Chief during the life-time of Prince Sekandr Hashmat.*

Faridun Kadr born in 1844 was 13 or 14 years of age in 1857 when Prince Sekundr Hashmut died. This alone is sufficient to show the falsity of the allegation.

*The duties of eldest son allotted to Faridun Kadr.*

Not true.

## THE SIR JOHN LAWRENCE ENQUIRY.

TO THE EDITOR.

I, the late chief officer W. H. Neustein, beg to state that I had no intention of going into print while the case was *sub-judice*; but since the dailies are evidently trying to influence the decision of Government, I can remain silent no longer, and therefore beg that you will, in the interest of truth and justice, allow me space in your valuable columns, in order to point out how unfair and entirely one-sided the whole of this enquiry has been.

In obedience to a request from Captain Stiffe, I. M., dated the 8th of July 1887—which ran as follows: "Mr. W. H. Neustein is requested to draw up such questions as he thinks should be asked to each witness, or to submit a detailed statement of what he expects the witnesses he has asked for, can depose to. This is required for the Government Prosecutor."—I took great trouble and pains to supply not only the detailed statement asked for, but the whole matter briefed and condensed with marginal notes to facilitate the reference of the officer whose duty it might be to elicit the information on all the important points at issue.

To my astonishment on arrival at Court, it was stated there was no occasion to make an opening speech, as there was no data to go upon, or hardly anything known of the matter for which the court was there assembled beyond the fact that the *Sir John Lawrence* had gone down or words to that effect. This total ignorance of the subject shews that the documents forwarded by me hardly had been looked into, and so up to the end of the enquiry they were seldom referred to but were treated as of no moment whatsoever. If it was not intended to use the information or call the witnesses suggested by me, it was a cruel shame that I should be put to the trouble and expense of drawing out the papers and submitting the information, which I did at the special request of the Port Officer.

This slight was bad enough, still when I was put in the box I did think I would be allowed to give the evidence for which I had been there called. To avoid wandering and save the time of the Court, I had drawn up a clearly written and concise statement as advised in my letter from Government, to which I was willing to swear. Vain hope! For days I was badgered with interruptions and objections, either on the ground that my matter was irrelevant, or on the plea of brevity. This was while I was under my examination-in-chief and while matter was likely to come out reflecting on the gentlemen concerned in the expensive additions and removals that were made at the time of the so-called repairs!

Yet, strange to say, no sooner was it the turn of Mr. Orr to cross-examine me, than lo! the patience of the Court was without limit—what width and range of "relevant" matter embracing from incidents of 20 years ago to how much I weighed, was meekly submitted to, while for days a legal man, who, according to himself, was in Court to only watch the case, was allowed to waste the time of the court, in (as he inadvertently admitted) the effort to get up a charge of perjury. Not a bad way to intimidate a witness called by Government, and supported by no one individual whatever. At this stage, it was clearly evident that my opponents stood thus: the Government law officers instructed by Barrow and Orr or *vice versa*, and the witnesses called, out of the twelve pointed out as those who could give valuable testimony, were the very ones whom Mr. Young would have selected; two of them were depending for their livelihood on the opinion of Messrs. Young, Bushby and MacKellar and at the mercy of steamboat owners. These men had all been discharged by Mr. Young. But strange to say, when this enquiry cropped up, Mr. Lindsay was reengaged, Mr. Macdougall, the carpenter, who for months was discharged speedily got employment, and so anxious was Mr. Young for their welfare, that in the precincts of the Court, before they gave their evidence, they received a currency note, as a refresher, I suppose, or call it Honorarium.

Mr. Leech, the fourth witness suggested by me, was also an engineer whose bread was to be earned in or about Calcutta. He also laboured under the same fear. But this gentleman, although pressed by Mr. Robert Young to swear that the patch which was below the deep load line was in the fore-castle, in spite of all threats, declined to be a party to such perjury; knowing well as he swore,



that he was nearly a day in the forepeak having the jagged edges cut off and having seen the patch both in Chandbally and Calcutta for over two years; and knowing that every honest man who knew the vessel could swear to the position of the patch on the hole made by the anchor.

Mr. Mathewson, I believe the only other witness called out of the twelve of my suggestion, being a Harbour Master, laboured under the weight of the probable censure of the whole Port Commission. Hence one could scarcely blame him for the diffidence with which he admitted that the windlass was quite unserviceable on the starboard side and in an unfit state for a sea-going vessel. Such was the position of the only five witnesses the Government officer thought necessary to call to prove the statements I had made. This, when the vessel is no longer afloat to test the assertions!

When these charges were originally made, on the vessel's return, when I called upon the authorities to stop her, an hour on board would have settled the matter, but they refused the chance, well knowing the condition of the vessel.

Four of the witnesses whom Mr. Kilby would not call, were men of experience, well acquainted with the "Sir John Lawrence," who would have put the position of the patch beyond a doubt below the deep load line, and have settled a number of other questions, the truth of which will never now be proved. One of these had cut the jagged edges of the hole and yet he was not called. Another had been present during the so-called repairs, and could have told that which would have cleared away much of the doubt which must now ever obscure the leading facts of this case.

Again, when I pointed out the quarters for independent evidence, in no case has one of these witnesses been called. As to the grave question of numbers, overcrowding and its results in a time of danger, I suggested such gentlemen as—Metcalf, Esq., Junior, C. S.,—Augier Esq., of Cuttack, and Mr. Jacke, witnesses who would have no cause to fear the marring influence of big engineers or surveyors and whose evidence would be free and unfettered by the prospect of a future boycotting. Their evidence would have left no doubt in the mind of the court, as to the condition of the boat and the reckless manner in which the vessel was then grounded and of the fearful struggle for food and water, by the hundreds confined, with all the fear of landsmen, in a stranded vessel. Yet am I grateful, that there were even five called out of the twelve witnesses I asked for. Three of them, two fitters and a carpenter, must have felt grateful to Mr. Young for their improved prospects, and also for the honorarium given in the court house before they gave their evidence. This, I should say, would hardly cause their evidence to go in my favour. Who can blame them, with starvation on the one hand, work and affluence on the other!

Can any court expect to arrive at anything like truth or fact, when, over twenty are called on one side, each one being allowed to say as much as he can remember, or forget whatever he likes, then, should he have forgotten any part of his lesson, being at once reminded with leading questions from favourable counsel, until he has said or evaded every point as prompted. And then, all these assertions are printed and published as facts although they have not been challenged or submitted to a cross-examination of any sort.

Notwithstanding questions of the greatest moment were ready for each witness and a searching cross-examination prepared by me, I was not allowed to put them and Mr. Kilby flatly refused to put them. It was not his business, although he was frequently implored to do so and the questions put in his hand, when palpable falsehood could have been exposed by the most mediocre effort.

Why the sincere effort of Sir Stuart Bayley to arrive at the truth should be rendered thus abortive a second time, by those who pooh poohed the matter before, I have yet to learn. Had there been any earnest intention on the part of the Port Officer to inquire into the condition of the "Sir John Lawrence," he, as a nautical man, would have considered it necessary to refer to number of voyages she had made, and the way she was rushed in and out of Port. The result of such an inquiry would convince any expert that there was actually no time allowed to keep the vessel in order below. Into Calcutta late on Friday, rushing the inward cargo out, and another one in during the night, then away at daylight down the river, and into Chandbally next morning, the same over again there, in many instances not taking time even to lower the softer bales below, just dropping them into hold with a few coolies to spread them out below, just to keep the hatchway clear, the only mate on board busy signing and making out receipts! Then, when, or how, could the holds have been painted since the repairs of 1884? It was impossible up to the time I left. So for near three years the rust accumulated. Three years of total neglect below, enforced by the avaricious way in which the poor old vessel was run! How the worn old plates must have corroded with rust, particularly between wind and water; or from the light water draft to the deep load line where the patch was rivetted on to a 3-16 in plate! This part of the vessel was continually first into salt then into fresh water; now for days exposed to the air, then again immersed, bare of paint half the time, rubbed off by the endless swarm of boats that were

over receiving or discharging their cargoes into her. The poor old ship had been run like this for years, ever since she had been in the Chandbally trade, under the supervision of Mr. Young. As long as the screw would go round, she had to go, she was only laid up for repairs at the last gasp when she would go no longer. Note her condition before the so called repairs of 1884, when she ceased to carry the hundreds of lives for a time, until a more malleable surveyor came into office.

Mr. Mitchell, now I believe chief constructor in the Government Dockyard Calcutta, condemned her hull as utterly unfit for any longer service as a passenger steamer, and this gentleman, unlike Mr. Bushby, considered the matter of sufficient importance to make notes and keep careful records of the borings in the hull, on which information he condemned the vessel. Why was not this evidence called, if it was really intended to find out the truth and also the real condition the vessel was in? Had this been done, the written record of the thickness of the plates in the hull of the *Sir John Lawrence* would be found very different to the assertions made from the elastic memory of her late surveyor, whose advice was so highly valued by the grateful agents of the vessel and whose company was so much courted and kept by their admiring marine superintendent.

The court admits, doubtless on the advice of an expert, that the upper plates of the vessel were below the standard of safety. Then, by what process of reasoning, do they make out that the line of plates between wind and water which were most subject to deterioration by corrosion, were perfectly sea-worthy when they admit that a plate in the most preserved and least exposed part of the vessel was only three-sixteenth of an inch? This will still remain a marvel to all practical and thinking men and a problem which I venture to hope Government will yet insist on being solved. The Agents quote the larger amount that was spent on the vessel, but the surveyor can shew no record of the number of plates or in what part of the hull they were put. No wonder! for very few were actually put to repair the hull. The large sums spent, as the court was led to believe, on her repairs, were actually spent in additions and removals with a view to increase her money-making surface: New boilers, smaller than the old ones, yet powerful enough to drive her faster; a new donkey boiler to tear the cargo in and out so as to get her away the morning after arrival and so run the old ship off her legs; 60 feet of upper deck added, to make her measure more, and carry more souls which meant more money. This is the way the plates went and many hundred feet of angle iron boasted of. The whole of the engine room and boiler space was cased in with iron plates. Thus they went, not to strengthen the hull, but to add more top weight and to keep out the water, which these additions were likely to aid in fetching on board.

Still she was staunch and strong, so finds the court. But will the public believe it? does the poor Chief Engineer's wife who died of grief, believe it? does his brother now in Calcutta? I say, no, we cannot while we know that the most important evidence was suppressed or kept back, by the Government prosecutor refusing or omitting to call the witnesses pointed out. Surely, after wasting so many days listening to the praises of the old *Sir John Lawrence* from a score who waxed eloquent under the golden smile of the Agents' representative, it was hard indeed, that at least half as many were not called in support of my evidence.

The flat refusal to cross-examine a single witness who spoke favourably of the vessel, no matter how palpably false, contrasted with the cruel manner in which these witnesses, who dared to speak the truth and swore the hole was where every honest man knew it to be, were bullied—at so much a sentence by Mr. Henderson and Mr. Orr.

Then again I would call your attention to the tremendous effort made by the united band of Engineers Young, Bushy, MacKellar and Taylor, to ignore the patch below the water line, blinding the court to its actual position, by swearing to other patches which were put on at other times in the fore-castle, well knowing it was a shameful and culpable piece of neglect to allow any vessel—much less one with a thousand souls to sail in and out of port for near three years in that dangerous condition. Still the reason was well known. As Mr. Leech, a Chief Engineer of 20 years' standing, says in his evidence, had the plate been replaced it would have exposed so much that there would be no knowing where the repairs would end. I ask any practical man would this vessel have been allowed to carry troops in that condition? Could she be passed for convicts to Port Blair? I say emphatically, no! Then how and why dare they say *Sir John Lawrence* was a fit and proper vessel to carry 1038 respectable citizens of this presidency? Surely their lives were of value to their friends and families. Although the way they sat down satisfied, without caring to make an effort to find out how or why their friends were drowned, would almost lead one to doubt the fact, still I say it is a crying shame and a disgrace to a large Port like this, that men who are well paid to protect the interests of natives who confide in that certificate which the court very properly says is of no value and means nothing, should perform their duties in so prefatory a manner.

Fancy a surveyor swearing on oath he surveyed a cable chain when a hundred fathoms of it were in the starboard locker and remained there long after the ship left. Such a man would swear to anything. It was proved in the court by Mr. Mathewson that the chain could not be got up from the starboard side, yet this man swore he surveyed it and would have been able to see any defective links. That the lives of hundreds should be trusted to such men as these who send a passenger vessel to sea with an ugly patch below the deep sea line which would not pass or be considered safe enough for convicts to Port Blair, is simply monstrous. Government will surely insist on finding out where that patch really was, by examining some independent witnesses, as a few minutes on board the steamer *Indore*, the vessel whose anchor helped to make the hole, with an officer who could and does explain how it occurred, would prove how utterly false the assertion was that it was in the forepeak. Both Mr. Leech and Mr. Thorpe swore it was in the forepeak and they were the men who had the job to cut off the jagged edges of the hole and were on the vessel for months. Yet the court was led to believe by a few influential men who were deeply interested in proving the hole above the line of danger, men who were only on board a few minutes and that at long intervals, in opposition to the positive evidence of those who saw the hole daily, that it was about 8 feet above its actual position.

I will now touch on things which the court thinks of no importance. Mr. Taylor swore there were no lip guards on the scuppers in his time. If so, how could I assist my carpenter in making the wooden pattern from half an old lip guard taken off by the witness Lindsey a few days before I left? It was from this Burn & Co. made the new castings. Messrs. Bushby and MacKellar say the scuppers were all right and did not require any guards. Then if that was so, why was it necessary for Captain Irvine and myself to plug them round with cement? as Mr. Leech swears he and John King & Co.'s man saw him doing. And further why did Captain Irvine indent for lip guards in the repair list, if they were not required? The Captain was an old commander who would not have put his owners to unnecessary expense and should know what was wanted for the safety of his vessel. Both he and I thought they were badly wanted, yet this upstart surveyor Mr. MacKellar was allowed to contradict the opinion of two ship masters, both of near thirty years' experience. In the same way, all the deck repairs were slurred over voyage after voyage, there was nothing done until whatever it was everything ceased to work and they could hang back no longer.

There can be no doubt in the mind of any nautical man that all the repairs which were urgently asked for by Captain Irvine were badly required. That urgent request still stands with the dead man's signature to solemnly indicate that it is useless for an engineer like Mr. MacKellar, who swears he surveyed one hundred fathoms of cable in a chain locker, to dare to gainsay defects which two shipmasters, who have sailed in the vessel for months, pronounce as dangerous and in need of repairs. The hard swearing and well paid legal skill have evidently induced the court to believe what was not. But it will not be credited for a moment by the public who are not in the ring. Had the vessel contained a hundred European gentlemen and their families, instead of over ten times the number of poor natives, there would have been found skill enough easily to tear in shreds the flimsy veil of falsehoods with which the Police and grateful friends of the firm have clumsily attempted to obscure the facts. Notwithstanding such a farce as this enquiry has in some respects been, we should be grateful that by accident many truths have leaked out, and I have no doubt that his Honour who did so much to get at the bottom of this matter will not allow the intentions of Government to be thwarted a second time as in the enquiry following my letters of 28th October 1886.

I will conclude by saying had it not been for Mr. Reily, the president of that court and his patience and courtesy of which I cannot speak too highly, the greater part of my evidence would not have been heard. With every other individual it was clear my presence was hardly tolerated. I have written this letter that the outside public both here and at home may know how marine enquiries which are supposed to account for the deaths of hundreds, are conducted in this one of the largest shipping ports of the world and also to point out how a ring of interested merchants or officials can bolster each other up and also how nearly impossible it is for one man unassisted, no matter how sincere, to get himself heard, although the object is for the benefit of millions.

That I have been slanged all round I care little. I have held a London master's certificate for some 14 years and have been chief officer in some of the finest ships in the world ever since 1868.

If the assertion of an amateur surveyor like Mr. MacKellar is to be taken in preference to an old commander like Captain Irvine, on affairs nautical, it is time there was a great change. When that comes we may then place some confidence in the condition of a ship that is certified by a Port Trust survey but not until then.

WILLIAM H. NEUSTEIN,  
Master Mariner of London.

## MONGHYR.

Jamalporc October 3.

The annual autumnal Festival, the Doorga Poojah, is now over. According to Aryan custom, I offer my sincere greetings for the year, to your goodself and your numerous readers. There were a number of images (*Protema*) worshipped throughout this district, but the mode and nature of worship were quite distinct from those of lower Bengal. The Beharis do not offer *Naybidya* and its requisite material at all. All they care about is that goddess "Doorga" is offered sweetmeats (especially *Batasha* and *Peurab*) and a number of goats sacrificed with unceasing clatter of drums, cymbals, &c., commonly known as *madal* and *Khartallis*. There was a want of enthusiasm on the part of worshippers all through the Festival. To speak with common fairness and justice, I should say, that the place *Chandisthan*, (where the renowned old deity *yes: las*) in Monghyr, was looked upon during the auspicious occasions, *viz.*, "Maha-Astami" and "Navami" as holy as it should be. The up-country Brahmans were seen deeply engaged in "Homas" and in chanting Vedas, Chandees, &c. In fact, the rite was a beautiful one, especially the process of worship and offering to "Chandi Maye." They appear to have been the outcome of true heart-felt religious spirit and sincere enthusiastic faith. The grand "Ram Lila" Fair in Monghyr, with the burning of the effigy of "Ravana," went off as usual with success.

During the festive occasions, there were a couple of unfortunate fatal accidents, causing loss of life and property. The particulars are given below.

On the 24th ultimo, (the very day of Maha-astami) the mother of Babu S. C. Mitter, Deputy-Magistrate of Monghyr, whilst bathing in the river, was, all of a sudden, bitten by a venomous snake, presumably a cobra, and after a short while she expired. One of the East Indian Railway Company's old steamers named *Kabijee* which used to ply between Sahibgunge and Caragolah Ghat for years, got aground the other day, near Monihari of which mention was made in my last, and was sunk by the under current all of a sudden, notwithstanding every effort made by the Company to save her.

The old station Benares of the East Indian Railway Company, is now out of their hands from the 1st current, it being transferred to the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway. The depression of traffic still continues.

The postal authorities of Behar, I understand, contemplate doing away with the Telegraph portion of the local post office here shortly, as it does not pay in consequence of the large Railway Telegraph office in its close proximity.

A reduction amongst the clerical staff of the Post office is also expected. This appears to be nothing but a penny-wise policy on the part of the state. Seeing that Jamalporc is a populous and an important station, one might have thought that matters would have been allowed to remain *in statu quo*.

The Bengalee Baboos of this town, who went to pay a visit to their dear homes, during the last holidays, have returned, and several of them are now laid up with fever of rather a malarious type.

There has been a slight change in the weather here of late. It is somewhat chilly both in the mornings and evenings.

*Holloway's Pills.*—The Great Need. The blood is the life and on its purity depends our health, if not our existence. These Pills thoroughly cleanse this vital fluid from all contaminations, and by that power strengthen and invigorate the whole system, healthily stimulate sluggish organs, repress over-excited action, and establish order of circulation and secretion throughout every part of the body. The balsamic nature of Holloway's Pills commends them to the favour of debilitated and nervous constitutions, which they soon resuscitate. They dislodge all obstructions, both in the bowels and elsewhere, and are, on that account, much sought after for promoting regularity of action in young females and delicate persons who are naturally weak, or who from some cause have become so.

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Purify the Blood, correct all Disorders of the

### LIVER, STOMACH, KIDNEYS AND BOWELS,

They invigorate and restore to health Debilitated Constitutions, and are invaluable in all Complaints incidental to Females of all ages.

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For Sore Throats, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds, Glandular Swellings and all Skin Diseases, it has no rival; and for contracted and stiff joints it acts like a charm.

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**NOTICE.**

The undermentioned lots of the Dhurruntollah Market, the property of the Commissioners for the Town of Calcutta, will be put up for sale by public auction, if not previously disposed of, at the Municipal Office, on Monday, the 7th November 1887, at noon :—

Lot No.	Nature of existing Superstructure.	Area of super-structure in s. ft.	Area of land in the lot.	Estimated monthly rental.	Total rent of each lot.
			B.C.Ch. S. ft.	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.
1	Upper-roomed house, upper-flat occupied by Hotel d'Europe	4,932	...	400 0 0	...
"	Ditto lower-flat occupied by 7 shops Chowringhee Road	...	...	225 8 0	...
"	Upper-roomed house, 3 upper-rooms occupied by Hotel d'Europe	3,375	1 2 14 8	25 0 0	930 3 0
"	Lower-flat, 15 rooms	...	...	197 3 0	...
"	Do. 2 gates	...	...	36 0 0	...
"	Do. 6 squatters at 0-0-6 each per day	...	...	2 13 0	...
"	½ portion of corrugated shed occupied by Parsee Theatre	7,038	...	43 11 0	...
2	Upper-roomed house, upper-flat	...	...	60 0 0	...
"	Lower-flat occupied by 8 shops	3,577	0 10 8 40	140 0 0	294 14 0
"	Ditto 8 " east of above	...	...	42 8 0	...
"	Ditto 1 verandah	...	...	16 0 0	...
"	Ditto half of gate	...	...	7 0 0	...
"	About ¼ of corrugated shed occupied by Parsee Theatre	2,890	...	29 2 0	...
3	Lower-roomed house, 4 shops with 5 back rooms	3,010	0 9 6 15	183 13 9	210 13 9
"	Lower-roomed house, ½ of gate	...	...	7 0 0	...
"	About ¼ of the Printing Office	2,646	...	20 0 0	...
4	Upper-roomed house, occupied by Mr. Thompson	2,150	0 5 9 37	121 12 0	179 12 0
"	Ditto 2 back rooms	...	...	12 0 0	...
"	Ditto ½ of gate	...	...	6 0 0	...
"	One large shed	1,647	...	40 0 0	...
5	Lower-roomed house, 1 shop occupied by Sen Brothers	2,646	0 7 13 10	110 10 0	166 10 0
"	Lower-roomed house, 2 back rooms	...	...	8 0 0	...
"	Ditto 16 do. at Rs. 3 each	2,209	...	48 0 0	...
6	Lower-roomed house, 2 chandnies	3,748	...	65 0 0	...
"	Ditto 18 rooms at Rs. 3 each	2,224	0 12 10 6	54 0 0	131 0 0
"	Ditto 1 room	...	...	12 0 0	...
7	About ¼ of the Printing Office*	6,439	0 9 9 16	60 0 0	60 0 0
8	¾ of the corrugated shed occupied by Parsee Theatre	6,670	0 9 4 10	43 11 0	43 11 0
9	Lower-roomed house, 2 rooms on Dhurruntollah Street	3,133	0 5 5 28	17 8 0	185 5 6
"	Ditto 27 shops along the new road	...	...	167 13 6	...
10	Lower-roomed house, 9 shops at Rs. 10 each	1,653	0 2 4 33	90 0 0	90 0 0
11	Ditto 4 " at Rs. 4 each...	1,653	0 2 4 33	16 0 0	66 0 0
"	Ditto 5 " at Rs. 10 each	...	...	50 0 0	...
12	Lower-roomed house, 10 shops	1,734	0 2 5 39	35 10 0	35 10 0
13	Lower-roomed house, 11 shops	1,890	0 3 3 37	42 3 0	45 3 0
"	Portion of occupied land about 442 s. ft.	...	...	3 0 0	...
14	Lower-roomed building 1 shed	5,705	0 10 1 5	28 0 0	86 1 6
"	Ditto 18 compartments	...	...	58 1 6	...
15	Ditto 1 shed	3,750	0 8 4 0	27 10 2	36 4 0
"	A portion of occupied land about 1,680 s. ft.	...	...	8 8 0	...
16	Pent-roofed building	2,400	0 6 9 21	40 0 0	44 0 0
"	A portion of tenanted land about 877 s. ft.	...	...	4 0 0	...
17	Tenanted land	...	0 9 4 9	40 0 0	40 0 0
18	Lower-roomed house 7 shops	...	0 10 0 24	57 0 0	74 0 0
"	Tenanted land	...	...	17 0 0	...
19	Lower-roomed house, 5 shops	...	...	45 6 0	...
"	Ditto 1 stable and a room	...	0 9 9 12	10 0 0	80 6 0
"	Tenanted land	...	...	25 0 0	...
20	Do.	...	0 10 10 38	45 0 0	45 0 0
21	Lower-roomed building	546	0 2 10 0	24 0 0	30 0 0
"	Tenanted land	...	...	6 0 0	...
22	Do.	...	0 2 10 0	7 8 0	7 8 0

**CONDITIONS OF SALE.**

1. The Commissioners' limit which has been fixed by a Special Committee appointed for the purpose, will be kept in a closed cover by the Chairman, and the highest bidder above this limit, is to be the purchaser; if any dispute arise as to the last or highest bidding for the lot, the same shall be put up again and resold.

2. A deposit of 25 per cent. on the amount of the purchase money is to be made by the purchaser immediately upon the lot being knocked down, and in default thereof, the premises to be immediately put up and resold at the risk of the purchaser.

3. The title to the property will be a conveyance from the Commissioners.

4. The residue of the purchase-money shall be paid within 15 days of the date of sale: and in case of default in payment of such residue, the purchaser shall forfeit his deposit, which shall be received and taken as and by way of liquidated damages, the sale to such purchaser shall be wholly at an end, and the Commissioners shall be at liberty to resell the same without any reference to such first purchaser, but at his risk.

5. The Commissioners will, if required, furnish a deed of conveyance, such conveyance being prepared by the Solicitors of the Corporation at the expense of the purchaser, who will likewise have to bear the cost of the stamp duty and registration and of any attested copies of deeds or covenants to produce those that may be required.

6. The Commissioners will enter into no other covenant than that they have done no act to encumber.

7. A lithographed plan of the Market, divided into the lots notified for sale, may be had at the Municipal Office, from the undersigned, on payment of eight annas.

\* R. TURNBULL, Secretary to the Corporation.

\* The sale of lot No. 7 is uncertain.

**CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.**

SEALED tenders, with Rs. 100 earnest money enclosed, will be received and opened by the Vice-Chairman at 2 P. M. on the 20th Instant for supply of Miscellaneous Stores required by the Corporation during the quarter ending 31st December next.

2. Forms of tender and lists of stores required can be had on application.

UDOY NARAIN SINGHA,

Supdt. of Stores.

12th October, 1887.

**WANTED:—**A Contractor for cutting Coal—one that can bring 100 or 150 men. Terms can be ascertained from the undersigned.

JOHN E. TYERS,

Actg. Agent and Manager,

Nerbudda Coal & Iron Co. Ltd.,

Mohpoin Mines, Gadawara, C. P.

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The Acron Bangle, (England)	Rs. 60
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The Forget-the-not Bangle	" 63
The Indian Bamboo Bangle	" 32
The Victoria Bangle	" 100
The Cleopatra Signet Bangle	" 54
The Magic Twist Bangle	" 185
The Flexible Curb Bangle	" 115
The Etruscan Ball Bangle	" 32
The Good Luck Bangle	" 54
The Oriental Onyx Bangle	" 90
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Inspection Invited.

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BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY

**SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,**

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,

Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

**OPINION OF THE PRESS.**

"We have received from the office of *Reis and Rayyet*, one of the leading native newspapers of Calcutta, a most readable little brochure written by Baboo Sambhu C. Mooker-

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1887.

No. 294

## News & Comments.

AT Melbourne, a man regularly received a newspaper, though he had not ordered it, and as such refused to pay the subscription. The matter was brought to Court and the man stood on his right that there was no authority for the supply. The Judge, however, was of a different opinion. He put the question to the defendant "If a baker left a bread at your door, and you took it and ate it, would you pay for that?" "Certainly, your Honour, but that is a different thing." "Not at all. You eat the loaf and devour the newspaper," and the Judge decreed the suit with costs. A good Cady, that.

ACCORDING to the *Allgemeine Zeitung*,

"At the annual meeting of a local agricultural society in Electoral Hesse, a wealthy farmer astounded his colleagues with a rhetorical panegyric on manure. When the business part of the meeting was over an expert in agricultural chemistry read a paper 'On manure, and its importance to agriculture and culture in general.' The assembled farmers were then invited to make any remarks they wished, either upon the paper or the subject of it. The gentleman in question rose to his feet at once, and after proposing a vote of thanks to the eminent man of science who had addressed them, proceeded thus to improve upon the subject. 'Yes, gentlemen, the Professor is right in all that he has so eloquently said. Manure is the iron foundation of all physical culture, and consequently of all intellectual culture. It is the original substratum upon which humanity has erected the temple of fame for the sciences and the arts. It is not only in its agricultural aspect, but also in its rhetorical aspect, that manure deserves the respect and observation of every thinking man. If our civilisation were deprived of manure, it would perish. Gentlemen, take the subject of manures (Dünger) to your hearts: my first word and my last word to you is—Manure!'"

Nothing like leather, to be sure!

THE White Star liner *Britannic*, which lately arrived at Queenstown from New York, reported the loss of the vessel *Sara* and most of her crew, on the coast of California. There were on board, besides the captain and crew, the captain's wife, children, and niece and a Mining Superintendent, Mr. Halle. Suddenly a heavy wave struck and capsized the *Sara*. All perished, the captain and four of the sailors alone saving themselves by clinging to the bottom of the vessel. Two of the sailors lost their reason, under the trial. Brooding on the happy prospect of reaching shore, they came to believe that it was before them. They talked of going on land and could not be restrained from making a plunge. The captain and the two sailors, one a small boy, only now remained clinging to the wreck for eight days. What days these were may be better imagined than described! To complete their situation, the sea was infested by great numbers of sharks which kept hovering around them for an opportunity. They sustained themselves by catching passing turtles whose blood they sucked. They were picked up by the vessel *Refuge*. It is said that so many as eleven persons—the captain's wife and four children, his niece, Superintendent Halle, and four of the crew—were eaten up by sharks.

HOW Providence lashes some with the very abundance of that for want of which others are left to pine away! A Russian singer, Marie Fillo, left by her will 150,000 francs to the Czarwitsch. The will runs thus—"This legacy is only a restitution. A near relation of his Imperial Highness gave me this money. I return it to him who would have had it if I had not lived." An inadequate reason for an

imbecile disposition! Why, the money was hers, lawfully hers, whoever it might have come from. Had she not fascinated an Imperial Duke (for that seems to be the meaning of her last sentence) and if she were not a mere nightingale, she would not have shipped coals to Newcastle. She was literally afflicted with an *embarras de richesses*. She did not know how to dispose of her money. At last she left it to one who did not at all want it, and would not, could not, in decency receive it—the heir to all the Russias. The Imperial legatee, however, felt no embarrassment like the musical testator, in disposing of the bequest. The legacy was accepted—*pro forma*—and distributed among the Moscow hospitals.

IN America they have commenced felling trees by dynamite. A cartridge is placed in a channel bored under a tree, and when exploded the whole tree is forced up. If a small dose might just uproot the *asooth* trees that crop out in Indian buildings to their certain destruction in the end, it would be a great boon in this country.

NOTWITHSTANDING the scepticism of European scientific men, the popular belief is too deep-rooted in the existence of an antidote to serpent poison to be shaken. We are therefore not surprised to find the following story in the *Madras Times* of the 20th September. A cobra being discovered down in the brick wall (near the water) of a well in Mr. Phipps's Works at Perambore, a smith from the shops, who was known to be a snake-catcher, was sent for, to capture it. After inspecting the man went away to fetch his brother from the village. This was a greater expert, and on coming lost no time in descending the well, and seized the cobra. In doing so, he got bitten in the hand. He did not seem to mind it, however. On coming up, he was seen chewing the root of some herb, which he carries about with him. Indeed, all his family, who are in the secret, are provided with this antidote. In the present case, the brother of Mr. Phipps's smith, though bitten by a large cobra, showed no effects of poisoning and lives hale and hearty.

AN ambitious literary member of Native Society in Nusseerabad, gives in the *Eastern Herald* a minute account of the running amok of a sweeper in that cantonment, glorying in the name of "Nine Gems." This Mehter Nourutton had a Malthusian sister-in-law—his brother's wife—who was opposed to his marrying until he had means for supporting a family. Few gentlemen in this overmarrying country would appreciate such wisdom as fell from this extraordinary Mghtrani, much less a poor ignorant pariah. Nourutton's native savagery was provoked at it, and getting hold of a couple of swords from the house of his employer, he went and cut down not only his political economist sister-in-law but also whoever fell in his way.

THE *Eastern Herald's* Barwani Correspondent reports that the Maharana of that State in Central India, had proceeded from his Palace, to a plain to the south of the town with great pomp, to celebrate the Dusserah Festival, and after performing the usual ceremonies, His Highness returned to the Lal Darwaza Hall where he held a Darbar. In the rush of the horses a poor child of the Kolee caste received an injury on the head and fractured the thigh.

ONLY the other day, the Nizam lost his firstborn son and heir. God has been pleased to grant him another.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

COLONEL Marshall left Simla on Saturday (8th) for Hyderabad, bearing the answer of the Government of India to the Nizam's offer. During his absence, Nawab Afsur Jung acted as Private Secretary.

IN the Imperial Legislative Council at Simla, on Thursday, the 6th instant, the Hon'ble Mr. Peile presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill for the Protection of Game, and the Hon'ble Mr. Westland that on the Bill providing for the Establishment of Bonded Warehouses at places other than the Customs Ports. Mr. Peile also introduced a Bill Amending the Law relating to the Regulation of the Police.

The Viceroy had been to Mushobra for a week or ten days, by way of compensation for his abandoned Narkhanda trip.

It is said that the Viceroy has sent to the Nizam through Colonel Marshall, his very cordial acknowledgment of the noble and opportune offer which His Highness recently made, and has informed His Highness that the Queen-Empress warmly appreciates as a fresh proof of friendship the munificent offer of assistance towards frontier defence, as also his promise of still further material aid in case of need.

THE Pioneer says:—

"A second attempt within one month has been made on the principality of Manipur. This time the attack came from Cachar. One Jogindro Singh, whose father made an attempt to dethrone the late Maharaja Nur Singh in 1844, started from Cachar on the 28th September last with about 100 followers, with the intention of making a bid for the gudgee. He was pursued by the Cachar Frontier Police, but was not overtaken until he reached the Limatak hill, overlooking the valley. Here he was met by a company of the 44th Gurkhas under Lieutenant Row, who demanded his surrender. As he refused to submit and commenced a fire on our men, Lieutenant Row stormed his position, killing the leader and 14 of his followers, while 12 were taken prisoners, 4 of them wounded. The others dispersed: and there were no casualties on our side."

THE latest news from Afghanistan is that of the Amir's return, in good health, to Kabul on the 20th September from the Paghman Hills. He held a military durbar in the citadel and inspected the fortifications. The strategical roads between Balkh and Kabul are nearly complete, and are now practicable for artillery even over the mountain passes.

VAMBERY like ourself, suspects that Persia connived at Ayub Khan's flight. Meanwhile, all sorts of rumours are afloat as to his present whereabouts. Our Government hears from Teheran that Ayub is believed to be lurking somewhere near Meshad. The Shah has deputed a Sirdar for a strict search through every village in the neighbourhood, who reports that Ayub was wandering in the desert in great straits, with only one servant, and there was every probability of his dying there simply from exposure.

OWING to the prohibitory order of the Madras Government not to tap the trees more than once in a year, the toddy sellers have struck and closed the toddy shops. Government, however, does not lose. What it loses in the tax raised from the toddy shops, is made up by the increased consumption of the arrack and beer in the city.

A BRAHMAN clerk, employed in the Madras Arsenal, was, in February last, warned for service in the Rangoon Arsenal; but as he was sure to lose caste by the sea voyage to Burma, he expressed his inability to proceed. This natural refusal was visited with disqualification for further Government service. Unable to support himself, the poor man recently memorialised the Government, for its favor. As his relatives who had threatened him with excommunication were in no way assisting him pecuniarily, he wished to set an example and give encouragement to his fellow-caste men in India by crossing the sea in defiance of his caste rules. Accordingly, he asked to be restored to his appointment. It is said that the Governor has relented. The poor Brahman is to be taken back, at present in the Ordnance Department at Rangoon, where some hands are wanted on the temporary establishment, and afterwards brought on the permanent establishment on the occurrence of a vacancy.

A RICH oil well has been struck near Krosno, in Galicia. The oil comes out with great force, rising to a height of 150 ft, and yielding several hundred barrels a day.

AT Grimsby, a young farm labourer, William Gavins, has been ordered jail for one month for poisoning to death three horses of his employer.

SIR C. Aitchison has returned and reached and took his seat at once in Council, Simla last Monday, Mr. Peile thereupon starting for Bombay, where he joins Lord Reay's Cabinet for a brief space before going on to the India Office on the 11th November.

WE congratulate Mr. D. W. Campbell on his confirmation as Agent of the East Indian Railway in the place of Sir Bradford Leslie. We hope he will keep clear of the latter's pampered favorites.

SIR H. L. Harrison, the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipal Corporation, is expected to arrive in Calcutta on the 12th Proximo. God speed!

THE Sonapore-Harihar Chhtra mela commences with the close of this month.

THE Viceroy does not visit Quetta as was arranged on account of the cholera.

THE Bank of Bengal rate of interest on demand loans has gone down to the unprecedentedly low figure 3 per cent.

THERE have been heavy rains in Mysore, breaching the railway line near Chennapatam.

THE London lady correspondent of a Bombay paper reports that "the Maharani of Cooh Behar seems to have won all hearts at Eastbourne by her sweet graciousness." What of the Maharaja? Alas, poor Yorick!

THE necessary machinery being all now on the spot, deep borings have been ordered up to 1,300 feet to test the full capacity of the petroleum oil fields near Sibir.

It has been ruled that a Civil Engineer of the Public Works Department who attains the age of 50 years, may be called on to retire. The Resolution is numbered 1884 G. and dated the 26th September 1887. It has no immediate effect in the following cases.

"That no officer having less than 25 years' service to his credit for pension shall be called upon to retire under this order within two years of the present date; that no officer having less than 20 years' service to his credit for pension shall be called upon to retire under this order within three years of the present date; that an officer called upon to retire under this order shall be allowed to take any furlough admissible under the rules before his final retirement, subject to the condition of section 110, rule 9 A, Civil Pension Code, in regard to retirement on attaining the age of 55 years; this proviso to be in force for five years from the date of this Resolution."

Likewise, a Military officer in the Public Works or Military Works Department who arrives at that age, without attaining the rank of Superintending Engineer, is liable to be called on to vacate his appointment. He will, however, be allowed the privilege of furlough he may be entitled to under the rules and allowances of the P. W. Department. This indulgence too is to be in force for five years only.

It is almost amusing to see the appeals *ad misericordiam* made by the press in behalf of enterprising wights baulked in their views on the public purse. Thus we read in a contemporary:—

"The negotiations about the Burmah Ruby Mines appear to have been muddled and mismanaged to such a degree that Mr. Streeter has been given fair grounds for a complaint of unfair treatment by the non-acceptance of his offer of four lakhs a year. The course finally adopted, of ascertaining by scientific investigation on the spot what the mines are really worth, to ensure against the public treasury being deprived of legitimate revenue by too hasty concessions to private individuals, is praiseworthy. But it is a pity that the plan did not commend itself to the authorities at the outset, and that all the eager seekers after concessions were not told at once that the Government must find out for themselves the real character and extent of the mines before considering any proposal to lease them to private speculators. The blue-book shows Mr. Streeter to have a claim on the Government's favourable consideration so far that, if it should be decided eventually to lease the mines, and when the sum which the Government think proper to be demanded has been fixed, his syndicate should be given the first refusal."

We are not sure of this. Mr. Streeter intrigued for an exclusive advantage—a great game—and if public opinion has prevented the job, he is scarcely entitled to pity or any particular consideration on account of his disappointment.



## Notes & Readerettes.

THE demonstrations of the unemployed in London continue. On the 17th some four thousand of them assembled in Trafalgar Square and repeated their deputation to the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House. This dignitary was more glib this time, though apparently trembling at these latter day signs, as a retired city man fed on too much turtle soup should be. He was afraid of facing the representatives of the famishing poor himself. Instead, an alderman received the deputation and referred the working men to the parish authorities. The reply, as might be expected, enraged the crowd. Excited by angry speeches from some leaders, the mob determinedly began to move towards the city. The Police, however, were on the alert, and forcibly arrested the march. There was a riot. Several, including policemen, were injured and at last twenty of the rioters seized.

The Police took precautions against any assembly at the same place next day. Still there was a crowd. Finding it impossible to hold against the Police, the assembled, about 2,000, began to move towards Hyde Park, whence making their way afterwards across the Park in the direction of Bayswater, they went up to the Victoria Gate. Here they met a strong body of Police. There was a fight, the iron hurdles and seats being improvised by the mob into weapons of offence and defence. The struggle was hard, many policemen were injured, nor did the crowd disperse until a fresh Police force had arrived. There were many arrests.

Again, on the 19th, large crowds gathered in Hyde Park and proceeded to Mayfair and thence along the Thames Embankment. The march was here arrested by the Police—mounted and unmounted. The dispersion of the crowd was quiet. The Police noticed a number of foreign anarchists, chiefly Germans, in the throng.

The demonstration was repeated the next day, the 20th, at Hyde Park. They fixed upon a deputation to the Home Secretary. The Home Office was of rather a different temper from the Lord Mayoralty, and the Assistant Under-Secretary received privately three of the deputed. The latest report is that the Lord Mayor has summoned the committee last formed to consider the question of unemployed labor towards the best means of giving relief.

IN consequence of the numerous cases cropping up, of high officials mixed up in land transactions, the India Office has been compelled to construe the inconvenient orders of Government. By a Despatch No. 18 (Public) dated India Office, London, the 28th July 1887, the Secretary of State has ruled:—

"In the ninth paragraph of his minute \* \* \* \* \* raises a question of some importance regarding the interpretation of the orders of the Government, prohibiting members of the Civil Service from acquiring or holding lands for agricultural purposes,—the question, namely, whether \* \* \* \* \* the interest in land intended to be prohibited is not a mere personal or individual interest, but extends to the acquisition of land for any relative, more particularly sons."

It is perhaps not quite clear in what sense the words 'for any relative' in the above paragraph were intended to be used. But, taking them in what appears to me to be their ordinary meaning, I am of opinion that the orders of Government do prohibit the acquisition, or holding, of land for agricultural purposes by a Covenanted Civil Servant, for a son or other relative; but that they do not prohibit the acquisition, or holding of land, for such purposes, by a son or other relative, even although the land be acquired with money furnished by the Civil Servant, provided that the money was given as an absolute gift, and that the Civil Servant has *bonâ fide* no interest whatever, legal or equitable, in the land or its produce."

Yes, "*bonâ fide*"—there's the rub!

THE little chiefship of Rajpura is under a charge of having tortured a man to death to make him disclose some treasure he was supposed to have come upon in his ploughfield. The Chief's son is implicated. He has been summoned to Rajcote. The Politicals have not, we are glad to see, begun with "taking his *izzat*." He is still free. There will be time enough to punish, when he is found guilty, if he be such a wretch.

THE City Magistrates, honorary and stipendiary, seem combined to expose their nakedness, though they might at the same time add illustrations of the perfunctory way in which Indian Acts are draughted. The other day a Bench of Magistrates fined a druggist for selling a small preparation of opium without special license under the excise law. The head of the Magistracy, as befits his high position, has now outshone the whole lot of them, by prohibiting by fine, the sale of lemonade, ginger-

ade and sodawater, except under permission from an immaculate Police. He thinks these waters come under the category of "provisions, liquors or refreshments," places for the sale whereof, as those for "the sale or consumption of ganja, chundoo, or other preparation of opium, hemp or other intoxicating drug, plant or substance," to wit, hotels, taverns, punch-houses, ale-houses, arrack or toddy shops or coffee houses, boarding houses, eating houses and lodging houses" (Bengal Act IV of 1866, Sec. 35) must be protected by special license from the Police Commissioner. A glass of iced lemonade certainly refreshes and, therefore, we presume, it must be a refreshment. This decision of Mr. Reilly, completely places all *khillewallas* and *halwikkars* vendors of prepared arca leaves and native sweetmeats—and what not, at the mercy of the Police, as the judgment of the previous Bench exposes all drug shops to the raid of Mr. Lambert's myrmidons. No doubt the law affords the bench some colourable pretext for these magisterial pranks. But almost anything may be made out of Indian law, as it is usually worded and rushed through a close bureau of Government called Legislative Councils. The Indian Courts, however, are not courts of law only but of good conscience and of common sense, if possible, the source of all law. The matters must be taken up to the High Court.

OUR Deputy Commissioner is signalling his return to office by his knight-errantry in the cause of morals. He is visiting the *demi-monde* to judge for himself and Government whether they should not be localized or sent to obscure lanes and byepaths, unless the Lieutenant-Governor, who never loses an opportunity of expressing his gratitude to, and his appreciation of, Sir Ashley Eden, in a fit of emulation of that Governor's peculiar rough and ready ways, relegated them to the different Police lines in the Province, in order to keep them out of harm's way, as also to keep society out of theirs. Our energetic Deputy Commissioner has evidently, during leave, been laying in a rich harvest of experience of the "social evil" in London, Paris, Vienna and other approved hot-beds of iniquity, in order to be able to cope with the fallen sisterhood of his own Calcutta. Bombay is also up against her unfortunates.

THE repeated disastrous fires in the Theatres and Opera Houses in Europe, have awakened attention to similar contingencies in Calcutta. The subject was promptly taken up in the *Statesman* which published a special report on our places of public amusement. Accordingly, the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Mr. Lambert, and the Engineer to the Corporation, Mr. Kimber, inspected the various Play Houses and have recommended the opening out of new doors and the improving and adding of stair-cases, with a view to easy exit. These houses are further to be connected with the Police Office, the head quarters of the Fire Brigade, by telephone. Besides, the doors are always to open outwards. The inspection would have been more comprehensive. We have always insisted that these and other places where there are large crowds, should be under some regulations and the construction of them under the control of some body like the Calcutta Corporation. The municipal bill in the legislature may well be taken advantage of to empower the Commissioners to effectually control all public buildings in regard to the sanitation and safety of these structures. It is time also, we think, that, at least, no new buildings, whether for residence or otherwise, be allowed except when sanctioned by the Commissioners on improved plans. Native houses especially require looking after. We hope Dr. Sircar will take up the subject both in the municipality and the legislature.

WHILE there is so much disposition on all sides to find fault with the vernacular press, by, if necessary, putting it to an impossible test and exaggerating its failings, it is but fair to remember that there is another side of the record. We observe with pleasure that the Tamil organ of Tanjore has just passed through the fiery ordeal of a prosecution with credit. The Station Master of the S. I. Railway there had charged the editor with defamation, but though the Court was favorably inclined, he unaccountably backed out—not before he had wasted the public time and put the accused to considerable harassment. Having examined no less than thirteen witnesses, and got the Magistrate to frame a charge, he would withdraw the case. The Magistrate properly refused permission. Thereupon, the Station Master took what is called French leave. At the next hearing, there was nobody to prosecute. We hope in the public interest the editor will push up his advantage. The public-spirited of Tanjore ought to assist him. We hope the Southern papers will give further particulars of the case.

UNDER the title of the *Reign of Quiet Victoria*, they have published a memorial of the Jubilee, or rather a justification thereof. The chapter on India is the contribution of the accomplished pen of Sir Henry Maine. We have not seen the book or any part of it, but from a long and most able leader in the *Indian Spectator*, it appears that our former Law Member has not yet forgiven Young Bengal the controversies he provoked and in which he did not leave the field with flying colors. Our contemporary takes him to task for his sneer at the English-speaking Indians with a temper that we, with our remembrance of the past, could scarcely command.

Sir Henry, of course, does not spare the friends of India in England. He rails at the Slaggs and Smiths, the Wilfrid Blunts and Herbert Gladstones as men who, on the strength of a cursory visit to the country or a perfunctory study of its political literature, venture to form an opinion for themselves against the experience of Indian experts—like himself. We are glad to find from our contemporary that an opportune exposure of the pretensions of official experience has appeared in an authoritative organ and that on a subject which is peculiarly one for experts in Finance.

"The London *Economist*, in an article on Indian finance, gives flagrant instances of the haphazard way in which men of 'experience' in Indian government and administration in the financial department sport with the interests committed to their charge. It appears that during the development of the last budget in India and England the Finance Minister and the financial department in India and England were not sure of their minds from one month to another. Thus in March last, when Sir A. Colvin published his budget in India, he showed the surplus of revenue over expenditure to be £500. In July following, when the Secretary of State issued his 'memorandum,' which constitutes a new departure, the £500 swelled to £60,000, and in September when the Indian budget was promulgated in Parliament, the worthy people found that they were sleeping over the good things which the gods had provided them with, for the surplus was found to be £6,42,000!!! Fortunately, the mistake in this instance was on the right side of the ledger, though one would think that the bungle was none the less a bungle for all that; but the Indian authorities are jubilant over the discovery and will perhaps vote a financial *Victoria Cross* to the Handy Andy who has brought about this jubilation. People have heard of the Irish bull about passing off a bad shilling between good coins. An Irish valet was desired by his English master during a tour to get rid of a defective coin on hand between good coins, and this bright witted valet took him at his own word by making the next payment by literally covering the bad shilling between two good shillings. This feat, the *Economist* tells us, has now been emulated by the Indian financial department in England. It had lately to convert Indian Four per cents. into Three-and-a-half per cents., and when the latter stock was at £101½, it advertised to pay it away at £100, if the buyers would make their payments in Fours. The holders promptly closed with the offer, and out of a total of £53,262,000 of 4 per cent. no less than Rs. 47½ millions were thus converted. And for this the Under-Secretary of State called upon his listeners in Parliament to sing hallelujahs to the glory of Indian credit. The *Economist* well says of this feat that 'it is as if our Chancellor of the Exchequer were to offer to give every holder of a sovereign 20s. 3d. for it, and then to come down to Parliament and boast that 90 per cent. of the holders of sovereigns had closed with the offer. But when has the British Treasury not been generous to British investors at the expense of the people of India?'

Examples of the kind, on this as well as other subjects, might be multiplied to any extent.

THE *Tirhoot Courier* has an interesting paragraph, to wit—

"The death in America is mentioned in the English papers of the man who assassinated the Duke of Parma some 35 years ago. The Duke was a notoriously licentious man, and it was the relation of a woman he had ruined who slew him. Immediately after the deed he sought refuge in a convent, and while the porter was absent, fetching a glass of water, he put back the clock of the Institution. This saved his life, as it enabled him at his trial to plead what seemed an irresistible *alibi*. We have heard of stories of the same sort in India. Once we were told a murderer escaped, by having a false case for some petty offence put forward by some friend of his against him in a district where he could not have been if he was present at the murder. He was convicted of the minor charge, which was supported by what seemed unimpeachable evidence, and consequently had an irrefragable case for an *alibi*, when accused of the graver offence."

Under these circumstances, what is the value of hard and fast rules of evidence like those of Sir Fitz-James Stephen? At any rate, one cannot help pitying those whose function it is to do justice. Indeed, society itself is to be pitied. Nay, what man is safe? Innocence must ever be at the mercy of such wiles. The only practical lesson from such revelations is that the most anxious care ought to be taken in the selection of those who have to administer the law.

WERE there not something morbid and weak in the passion for mere size, the Americans would have been the loftiest nation on the globe. The latest symptom of the infirmity is manifested in the contract lately

executed in New York for what will be the largest river-steamboat in the world. The largest existing boat is the *Pilgrim*, one of the fleet of the Fall River line. The *Puritan*, which is to bear it company as well as to surpass it, will be 404 feet at the water line and 420 feet at top. This is about the average of ocean steamers. The new vessel will contain 355 state-rooms and will be propelled by engines of 7500 horse power. The cost will be ½ million dollars. The contractors have undertaken to deliver it by May 1889.

When ready, the *Puritan* will be a water giant worthy of the rivers of America. It will be fit companion too to the great enterprises of man in the same land—the vast hotels and shops, Barnum's Show, &c. One would have thought, however, that after the disastrous experience of the first owners of the *Great Eastern*, there would be no more attempt to float a colossal nonsense, either on sea or on inland waters. But 'cute as the Yankee is, his pursuit of the sublime in his operations and works is a stronger passion, overpowering his usual prudence. It all reminds us of Leech's cartoon of the American's boast of having the boundless prairie for a croquet lawn. Another naughty Briton figured America as an immense spittoon. But though it is easy to laugh at extravagance, we cannot help feeling a respect for a new nation striving after unrealisable ideals. Certainly, Philistinism is not more respectable than ideologism with impracticable aspirations, be it American or French.

How are times changed! Two hundred years ago Dryden could only suggest, in a literary, half-comic way, the possible value. "It is good to laugh at any rate," said he, "and if a straw can tickle a man's fancy, it is an instrument of pleasure." What would the great Poet, and Prosist have thought if anybody told him that:—

"Straw forms the raw material of several important industries. It serves for a paper material, for thatching roofs, for plaiting into door and table mats, mattresses, &c., and for weaving and plaiting into light baskets artificial flowers, for straw hats and bonnets. The most valuable straw for plait is grown in Tuscany, and from it the well-known Tuscan plait and Leghorn hats are made. The exports of plait and manufactured hats from Leghorn average in value £480,000 annually, about one-half of the goods going to America. The annual output of straw-plait industry in England is estimated to amount to about £4,000,000."

Even to this day we talk contemptuously of a "man of straw." We must mend our manners and our—tongue!

THE transported Raja of Pooree, convicted of cruelty unto death to Shibdas, has been relieved of all earthly sorrows. We hope Lord Jagannath will give him that peace which he lacked while on earth. He was transported in 1878. There was a feeble attempt during the Royal Jubilee to procure for him the mercy of the Crown, but Sir Rivers Thompson did not see his way to it. The Rani will now be at ease on one side. There is no more danger of the Vishnu in the flesh surprising her.

WE are grieved to hear of the death of Baboo Barodaprasad Ghose, a pleader of the Allahabad High Court. He, unlike his brethren deep in the profession, found time and devoted himself to the service of his country in other ways than in pleading the cause of paying clients. His avocations constantly brought him to Benares, where he started or rather edited from his head-quarters at Allahabad, a weekly newspaper which did not, however, last long enough to be sufficiently useful. He had mourned the loss of a wife and now leaves a young widow—a daughter of the Singh Family of Bhastara—to mourn his loss.

MR. Dear of Monghyr, the contractor on whom Fortune lavished her favours, is dead. He was born a Polish Jew, but coming among Christians in British India to earn his living, separated from Israelitish influences, and befriended by missionaries of the Gospel, he was baptised, and ever after maintained the ardour of a neophyte towards the Church. He amassed a large fortune and, having none but a daughter or niece to provide for, was liberal with his purse. His heiress was married to a retired soldier—General Murray—who keeps a splendid house at Monghyr.

IT vexes us to see our own countrymen writing without knowledge on matters purely Indian. The Lahore *Tribune*, one of the most respectable of the Native Press, lately noticed two simultaneous deaths, saying

"India, within the last week, has lost two of her worthy sons—Sind has lost the Hon'ble Mr. Dayaram Jethmal, her foremost public man

and patriot; and Bengal has lost Dr. Ram Das Sen, one of her foremost antiquarians."

After disposing of the great Sindhi, without, we confess, affording us any particular clue to his personality and position, such as we might expect from a neighbouring Province and specially from so knowing an observer, the writer proceeds to notice the other, thus:—

"Bengal has lost a son not less worthy. Dr. Ram Das Sen was a big Zemindar of Bengal. His studies in English and Sanskrit were extensive and accurate. He has written some of the best works on Indian antiquarian subjects in Bengali. He was a constant contributor on such subjects to the leading Bengali Magazines. For his antiquarian works he was made a Doctor by a European University. He was a patron and encourager of learning, and used to be always surrounded by Pundits. A short time before his death he had commenced to write a history of India in the columns of our young contemporary of *Hope*. The few instalments that appeared in the *Hope* assured us that it would be a history of great value. He had travelled largely in India and Europe. He was amiable of disposition and a man of sterling character. Death has snatched him away in the midst of his patriotic and learned labours. Bengal will remember him and cherish his memory long."

There is danger in off-hand potraiture: even where the painting is good the portrait may be unrecognisable. Thus, this clever writer, himself a Bengali, makes, in writing of a Bengali just dead, as many mistakes as the lines he writes. The late Baboo Ram Das Sen was in no sense a big Zemindar, nor were his studies in English and Sanskrit at all extensive or accurate. His early education had been neglected. How difficult it is to repair that defect is well-known, and the deceased had never made persistent and systematic efforts in later life to ground himself in a knowledge of either language. He had means, however, and, what is rarer, a zeal for letters. Without adequate accomplishments, he had an inordinate ambition for literary distinction, and, by dint of perseverance, he succeeded in realising more than his most sanguine expectations. He was known to possess a good library. It was this possession that was the ultimate cause of his literary success, as well as the incentive to his literary exertion. It has been so with many. That is one of the best reasons for encouraging book-collectors. We believe Ram Das inherited a respectable collection of books which he assiduously added to, until he had a fine library around him. He was quite a boy when, in 1865, he bid against us at the sale of the late Mr. Seddons the Orientalist's books and papers at Berhampore. It was interesting to see the dapper little 'swarthy fellow, with plain features and a rather animal expression, a country squireling living in the midst of the temptations of a city in the neighbourhood of a British cantonment on the one hand and an old Mahomedan capital on the other—lustily struggling for the possession of rare books in Oriental literature and antiquities.

To his intelligent bibliophilism, many Bengali authors and other scholars, European and native, who have resided at Berhampore, have been more or less indebted. It was this passion for collecting, and the intercourse of the learned to which it introduced him, that naturally and gradually beguiled him to a taste for letters and to its cultivation on his own account. Herein, to our mind, lies the lesson of his life to all sons of opulence of every land and every nationality and creed. It has another lesson, more specially for his own countrymen, no less interesting and valuable. He achieved a considerable distinction in this almost forced pursuit. Without either a regular education of any kind, or extraordinary parts such as might make up for almost any deficiencies, by dint of mere energy alone, and plodding enquiry, he has left a name, which will always be remembered with respect by future bibliographers and critics and investigators into the literature and annals of the country. This he was enabled to do by his prudent choice of linguistic medium. Had he labored ever so steadfastly or inquired ever so intelligently, he would have written to little purpose in English. He would have made no impression in a foreign tongue, far less left a name—except for a warning. He did try the impossible, but he persisted not in the experiment. He gave a Lecture in English on Buddhism at Berhampore and was ill-advised enough to publish it. But although tempted by local flattery and even encouraged by the praises of a press gracious to young men of position, he abandoned for ever his views of distinction in a European language. He fell back on his own vernacular and was permitted to enrich his country's literature.

THE Goddess Durga has not left us without carrying in her train some more or less known persons from our midst. Somehow or other, death is always busy, at this time of the year, particularly among the younger

generation. Baboo Akhoykumar Seal, Banian to Messrs. Gladstone Wyllie Co., died of typhoid fever, and has been followed by a young, very young member, of the well-known Mitter Family of Manicktolla Street, and, last of all, we have to record the death of Baboo Tariney Churn Bose of Pataldanga. Baboo Bose has not indeed died young, but he has left the scene of his labours and often gratuitous anxieties without any other record than that, born in an humble position, he succeeded in amassing wealth and has died a veritable Cæsus among the Kayasthas of Calcutta. We trust the deceased has willed away some portion of his vast wealth for the benefit of humanity. A staunch Hindu, the poor old man missed the Hindu pledge of everlasting bliss, namely, death in the holy river, from absolute inability to the last to surrender the key of his strong-box. We congratulate his sons on their freedom and the realisation of their hopes of a respectable existence at last.

A sadder death is that of Baboo Grijabhusan Mookerjee, pleader, the travelling Secretary of the new Bengal League, cut off in the prime of youth, leaving a family and many friends to mourn his loss.

THE great Nagarseth Premabhai, Hemabhai, of Ahmedabad, the hereditary head of the banking community of the country, is dead. He was a true banker-prince, living like—or at least keeping up the establishment of—a grandee at home, all the while that he haggled like a pedlar for a pice at the counter.

THOMAS Longley, a Dover publican, is, according to the *British Medical Journal*, the heaviest subject in the world. He is 40 years of age. His present weight is 40 stone, height 6ft. 3¼ inch, measurement of the waist 80 inches and size of the leg 25 inches. He can hardly walk and avoids a carriage lest the springs give way. He is temperate in food and drink and keeps his health well.

FOLLOWING the *Mahratta*, the *Arcot*, Captain Parsonage, 1782 tons, has stranded on the Mukraputty Sands. She was on her return to this port after a coasting voyage from Bombay. The first of the official reports runs thus:—

"At 1-35 this afternoon (Oct. 22, 4-30 P. M.) B. I. S. N. Company's steam vessel *Arcot* grounded on the Mukraputty Sands 'James and Mary's' and capsized at once. All reported saved except 5 passengers. *Resolute*, with Deputy Conservator, leaves this evening. The *Undaunted* will follow as soon as possible. No more known yet. Steam vessel *Rewa* assisting at wreck."

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1887.  
HYDERABAD.

WE almost despair of Hyderabad. We say "almost," because this is not the first time that that great Mussulman kingdom has been in a bad way; it has indeed been in worse peril, and that many a time and oft; but as often as it has been brought low, or even brought to the verge of extremity, it has recovered or revived, saved by Providence or the Prophet—restored by the talent principle of its native vitality, or spared by the policy of the British Government or, if you will, simply saved by the caution or compunction of the Governor-General of the day. For a great length of time, Hyderabad was the Sick Man of the Indian Continent, much in the same way that Turkey has been the Sick Man of Europe. There the vultures might be seen hovering over the expected carcase presumably hastening to dissolution. Here the sole eagle which has driven the neighbouring vultures out of the field, and even made carcasses of them or at least eaten them down to almost lifeless skeletons, could, in the absence of any competitors or rivals, to share the inevitable spoil, afford to await the end with decency and in dignified silence. Beyond that, it was the same in both cases; a mere question of time: the end was certain in each. Nobody expected either to live—the dis-

ease was absolutely mortal. It has proved to be of the deadly character ascribed by certain amiable men of science to tobacco. Hyderabad is like the victims of the weed who are always being precipitated to death without coming to it. Many a time, during the greater part of a century, have the doctors fixed the date of dissolution, but 'the patient has always proved too strong for their prognosis.' Hyderabad still maintains itself, like Turkey, with a low but tenacious vitality. Since it ceased to be a truly independent power, Hyderabad has shown a wonderful elasticity of health which the European Sultanate might envy. From time to time, it has been brought to death's door almost, but it has never succumbed to the destroyer. From an early period in the century, the depletion of finances had gone on with such accelerated progress that one would suppose no blood could possibly remain to carry on the vital functions. For a long series of years, between plunderers, official and unofficial, Native and British, between the Palmers and the Rumbolds, supported as well by the Calcutta Government House as by the ruling Directors of the East India Company themselves, in league with the Nizam's own faithless or incapable servants, the ruler of the Deccan was fleeced right and left, until he was reduced to helpless dependence on the blood-suckers who appropriated his revenues and became the real lords of the land. The process was, to all intents and purposes, as to all appearances, completed by a Minister who was enabled to defy at once his master and the Governor-General's representative at the Court. This British favorite, Chundoo Lal, who knew all the ins and outs, and was eaten up with that craze for ostentation or that madness of indiscriminate liberality which sometimes seizes Orientals, had not only drained the last copper, *in esse* or *in posse*, but had scarcely left a blade of grass standing in the fields.

Yet Chundoo Lal himself, who might have brought Croesus to the bankrupt court, failed in the feat of ruining Hyderabad. The resources of the country baffled the genius of the great Sangrado of finance. Soon after Metcalfe had ashamed the Government of India into granting the loan of eighty lacs, to help the state out of the hands of the Christian Shylocks, the country again showed signs of prosperity. But there is no peace for a state which has once surrendered the higher attributes of sovereignty and lies at the mercy of its protector. Before long, it became too plain that, in exchanging private financiers for a paramount sovereign creditor, Hyderabad had made the choice of Gribouille, *qui se cache dans l'eau, crainte de la pluie*. Again, there came another reign of *Loot*. Nay, again and again, with brief intervals of reform under new brooms, Still "poor Nizy" lives. Why should he not tide over the present order of disorder? He bears a charmed life. The state that survived a Chundoo Lal, may survive the Salar and Diler Jungs, the Medhi Alis and the Marshalls.

#### MILITARY DISCIPLINE IN BOMBAY.

THERE are good grounds for thinking that a spirit of laxity is again invading the army. The Bombay branch is, in this, showing itself particularly defective. The Beloochee element must be fast degenerating into a rabble. These borderers among our paid defenders seem to be the pets of men in high places; there is practically no check on them. What wonder that they should become a lot of spoiled children. For the last several years, they have been

allowed to do almost just as they pleased in Sind. The miseries of the poor people of Kurachee at the hands of these military protectors, are heart-rending to contemplate. The natives, specially the weaker sex, are in continual dread. They are afraid to come out in the streets for fear of meeting with any of these military rowdies. Nor are they without anxiety within doors. For these fellows do not always scruple to pursue the citizens to their homes.

The spirit of the border highlanders, located in the frontier province, seems to be spreading. The capital of the Presidency has not been spared, and there the offenders were not rude Beloochees. The Mohurrum at Bombay was disturbed by one of those scenes of military lawlessness which have, in certain parts, become so frequent of late years, followed by the usual mock trials before a military court. A private of the 17th Native Infantry obstructed the Mahomedan procession near the Carnac Bunder bridge. He was told to desist by a constable, whereupon this unsoldier-like sepoy ran to his quarters, to fetch a number of his fellow military poltroons to wreak his vengeance on the poor Policeman. They came and all fell on one man and dragged him to their lines and used him in the most unsoldierlike manner. The vindictive rowdies would doubtless have pounded him within an inch of his life, if not quite to death, had not the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Mr. Gell, promptly hastened to the spot with some of his Police, and rescued the unfortunate victim. So low is the morale of the army of the West that this outrage was committed in open day before the whole city. And yet such is the regard for discipline of the authorities that, notwithstanding the efforts of Sir Frank Souter, the head of the Police at the Presidency capital, there was no proper inquiry. A military court was, of course, held, but it was little better than a farce. To begin with, the sitting was within closed doors. Sir Frank Souter properly desired an open trial. In the language of Anne Bullen, his shame, or that of his force, did not fear an open trial. But that would scarcely suit the views of the Military Inquisition. The press, of course, pressed for admittance, some of the reporters being armed with a permission from the Brigade Major, who seems to be singularly free from the prejudices of his brethren; but to no purpose. Thus the inquiry proceeded in the dark. Several witnesses were examined. As if to demonstrate the utter worthlessness of the thing and prove that there never was any serious intention to establish the truth—all of a sudden, the Quarter-Master-General's office notified that "Orders have been received from Army Head Quarters for the relief of the 17th Bombay Infantry by the 4th Bombay from Mhow." Thus screened, the 17th Bombay rowdies escaped. Under the circumstance, it becomes our duty to warn the doomed inhabitants of Mhow to take care to avoid the triumphant heroes gone to defend their country.

The matter is not a trifling one. The country still remembers the effects of the demoralisation of the Bengal Army. The Viceroy would do well to inquire into the military outrages at Kurachee and Bombay, even if Lord Reay, out of deference to an exalted Commander-in-Chief, should show weakness, for some one in Parliament might want to know.

As we are going to press the telegraph reports, that the coroner's inquest on the Policeman killed in the Mohurrum at Bombay, has found manslaughter against the sepoys.

## OLD ENGLISH LETTERS.

IT is a pleasant and not uninteresting diversion to read the correspondence preserved to us from of old, from Cicero and Pliny downwards. But, although there is an archaic charm in ancient memoirs and despatches, yet it is the records of times not too far removed from our own that have naturally the most practical interest, as those which have the clearest meaning, for us. The European masters in letter-writing, as in the whole literature of *and*, are, of course, the French—so preeminent in the amenities of life and letters. There is nothing in any other nation to compare with the airy touch and genial rubbish of Madame de Sevigné. Horace Walpole has such a name in England, because his countrymen did not suspect how very French he is. On the other hand, English letters, like English literature in general, have a solid worth of their own. Indeed, real letters must needs be more characteristic, personally as well as nationally, than any other form of literature. Hence the importance of studying them. Let us introduce the reader to a couple of old English letters. Perhaps, they will while away, not unusefully, a quarter of an hour.

Anne Bullen's letter to Henry VIII. from her captivity on a charge of infidelity, is touching, and few men, we hope, can resist such an appeal. She says at the outset that she does not know what to write, such was her bewilderment. She next says that when she received His Majesty's message that he will be pleased to pardon on her confessing through her "ancient professed enemy," "she rightly conceived the meaning" of the proceedings against her. But says she, "if as you [His Majesty] say, confessing the truth may procure safety, I will, proceed to do so." She then continues—

"But let not your Grace ever imagine that your poor wife will ever be brought to acknowledge a fault where not so much as a thought thereof preceded. And," rising in dignity of virtue, she observes, "to speak a truth, never prince had wife more loyal in all duty, and in all true affection than you have ever found in Anne Bullen; with which name and place," she continues with touching bitterness, "I could willingly have contented myself, if God and your Grace's pleasure had been so pleased. Never did I, at any time, so far forget myself in my exaltation, or received queenship, but that I always looked for such an alteration as now I find: for," she with cutting truth observes, "the ground of my preferment being on no sure foundation than your Grace's fancy, the least alteration, I know, was fit and sufficient to draw that fancy to some other subject." She then proceeds from general remarks to particular requests. "You have chosen me from low estate to be your queen and companion, far beyond my desert and desire. If then you found me worthy of such honor, good your Grace, let not any light fancy, or bad counsel of my enemies, withdraw your princely favor from me; neither," she womanly says, "let that stain, that unworthy stain, of a disloyal heart towards your good Grace, ever cast so foul a blot upon your most dutiful wife, and the infant princess your daughter. Try me, good king, but let me have a lawful trial; and let not my sworn enemies sit as my accusers and Judges. Yea, let me receive an open trial, (for my truth shall fear no open shame.) \* \* \* So that whatever God, or you, may determine of me, your Grace may be freed from an open censure, and mine offence being so lawfully proved, your Grace is at liberty, both before God and man, not only to execute worthy punishment upon me, as an unlawful wife, but" she observes with the unfailing instinct of a woman, "to follow your affection, already settled on that party for whose sake I am now as I am; whose name," she lingers on this theme, "I could, some good while since, have pointed unto your Grace, being not ignorant of my suspicion therein. But"—the resignation with which she faces the fatal inevitable alternative of non-compliance with her prayer for a fair open trial, and the complaisance, the evident sincerity with which, in that case, she, suttee-like, invokes the pardon of God on a barbarous husband, and his worthy accomplices, are truly affecting, and infinitely heighten our estimate not only of Anne Bullen, or of womankind, but of our whole race, and reconcile us to the world, with all its hardness, cruelty and vindictiveness—"if you have already determined of me, and that not only my death, but an infamous slander, must bring you the enjoyment of your desired happiness, then I desire of God that he will pardon your great sin therein,

and likewise mine enemies, the instruments thereof, and that He will not call you to a strict account for your unprincipally and cruel usage of me, at His General Judgment-Seat, where both you and I must shortly appear" \* \* \*

\* \* \* In her own struggle for life, poor Anne does not forget others who shared her misfortune. "My last and only request shall be, that myself may only bear the burden of your Grace's displeasure, and that, it may not touch the innocent souls of those poor gentlemen, who, as I understand, are likewise in straight imprisonment for my sake." She conjures him to grant this request. "If ever I found favor in your sight, if ever the name of Anne Bullen hath been pleasing in your ears, then let me obtain this request; and I will so leave to trouble your Grace any farther," and she concludes with a prayer for him. Dated "from my doleful prison in the Tower, the sixth of May. Your most loyal, and ever faithful wife, Anne Bullen."

Had Henry VIII been open to pity, Anne's appeal would have sufficed to move him to relent. No learned paper drawn up by a committee of the best logicians and lawyers was so likely to move. And yet there is not in the letter one sentiment unworthy of a man or woman of virtue, dignity and high feeling, not an atom of flattery, when the privilege of so great a calamity (to make use of a striking phrase in the disgraced Bacon's appeal to his sovereign) as befell the writer might have excused a far greater, aye, the most abject obsequiousness.

It is very disappointing that such a noble production should have no undoubted proofs of its authenticity.

Sir Walter Raleigh's letter to his wife, written the night before he expected to be beheaded at Winchester, in 1603, is a simpler effusion, and less remarkable as a composition merely, but it is scarcely less affecting.

"My love I send you, that you may keep it when I am dead; and my counsel, that you may remember it when I am no more. I would not by my will present you with sorrows, (dear Bess,) let them go to the grave, and be buried with me in the dust, and seeing it is not the will of God that ever I shall see you more in this life, bear it patiently, and with a heart like thyself. First I send you all the thanks my heart can conceive, or my words can express, for your many travails and cares taken for me; which, though they have not taken effect as you wished, yet my debt to you is not the less: but pay it I never shall in this world. Secondly, I beseech you, for the love you bear me living, do not hide yourself many days; but by your travail, seek to help your miserable fortune and the right of your poor child; thy mourning can not avail me, I am but dust." \* \* \* "I trust my blood will quench their malice, that have thus cruelly murdered me; and that they will not seek also to kill thee and mine with extreme poverty. To what friend to direct thee I know not, for all mine leave me in the true time of trial; and I plainly perceive that my death was determined from the first day. Most sorry I am, (as God knows,) that, being thus surprised by death, I can leave you no better estate;" \* \* \* "but, God hath prevented all my resolutions, even that great God that worketh all in all; but if you live free from want, care for no more, for the rest is but vanity; love God, and begin betimes to repose your trust on him; therein shall you find true and lasting riches, and endless comfort" \* \* \* "Teach your son also to serve and fear God whilst he is yet young, that the fear of God may grow up with him; and then will God be a husband unto you, and a father unto him—a husband and a father which can never be taken from you" \* \* \* "When I am gone, no doubt you shall be sought for by many, for the world thinks that I was very rich: but take heed of the pretences of men and their affections, for they lead not but in honesty and worthy men; and no greater misery can befall you in this life than to become a prey and afterwards to be despised. I speak not this, (God knows,) to dissuade you from marriage, for it will be best for you, both in respect of the world and of God. As for me, I am no more your's, nor you mine, death has cut us asunder; and God hath divided me from the world and you from me."

"Remember your poor child for his father's sake, who chose you, and loved you in his happiest time. Get those letters (if it be possible) which I writ to the lords, wherein I sued for my life. God is my witness, it was for you and your's that I desired life; but is true that I disdain myself for begging it; for know it, (dear wife,) that your son is the



son of a true man, and one who in his own respect despiseth death, and all his misshapen and ugly forms" \* \* \*

"The everlasting God, infinite, powerful, and inscrutable; that Almighty God which is goodness itself, mercy itself, the true life and light, keep thee and thine, have mercy on me, and teach me to forgive my persecutors and false accusers, and send us to meet again in his glorious kingdom! My true wife, farewell! bless my poor boy; pray for me, and let my good God hold you both in his arms.

"Written with the dying hand of sometime thy husband, but now (alas!) overthrown.

"Your's that was, but now not my own, Walter Ralcigh."

A most touching effusion! the last will and testament of a dying knight, who, subduing his natural repugnance to such an attitude, had prayed for his life for his wife and child's sake and finding it unavailing had prepared himself to meet death with resignation. It breathes no such hollow contempt for the king of terrors as ninety nine out of every hundred professional cutthroats profess. The writer is understood to accept his coming fate as a by no means pleasant but an unavoidable necessity; he has too much taste and good feeling to take pride for his resignation. The letter, moreover, does not express the indifference towards wife and child and of their future position and prospects of a vulgar, and essentially selfish, philosophy. It imparts to the addressed all the instruction, moral and worldly, necessary, and all the consolation it was possible, under the circumstances, to give. We doubt whether Socrates himself could have acquitted himself better in Sir Walter's position. Scarcely does he break out into any unseemly bitterness against his enemies; never does he mention one of them by name—far less does he think of vindicating himself. To this last remark there is one exception. And no man we presume will find fault with one of the most gallant men of an age preeminent for gallant deeds for explaining the motives which actuated him in suing for his life. The letter is pervaded by the purest affection for his own, and the best feeling towards all—all crowned by as fervid a religious sentiment as might almost redeem the misdeeds of a life. Indeed, the unchanged faith in the goodness of Providence and reliance on it—unchanged even at a moment when his own great and entirely unmerited calamity seems to give the most positive lie to that faith—is truly noble, gay, heroic. It is like kissing the rod that smites you. The whole concludes with a lofty invocation to God. And touching too is the concluding description which he gives of himself—"your's that was, but now not my own, Walter Ralcigh."

#### HURRIS CHUNDER MOOKERJEE.\*

Our readers cannot have so soon forgotten the irrepressible Barendra, Brahman who, under every internal and external disadvantage, notwithstanding the discouragement, overt and covert, of the deceased's friends and foes alike, within comparatively a short time of his death, brought out a memoir of the great Indian politician Kristodas Pal. He has laid the country under a similar obligation. He has compiled a sketch of the life and times of another and greater Indian—Hurrish Chunder Mookerjee. It is an unpretending little brochure of compressed typography, but the discerning public will be glad to have a work on the subject at any rate. Baboo Sanyal's present publication is in Bengali; and all the better for it, perhaps. For, thereby the millions of Bengal will have little excuse for losing the memory of one, and not the least of the less than half a dozen of the greatest of their race in all time. The less that the price is only six annas.

If anybody is still inclined to complain that such a subject does not appear in a more presentable exterior, let him in justice remember that the fact is due to the author's misfortune rather than his want of zeal. If his previous volume was in that respect more worthy of its subject, that was because of the princely aid of a stranger—the Maharaja of Vizianagram.

It will be easy to find fault with the book, but its value will not be questioned by the candid. Its strong point is in the facts brought together. There may be little inaccuracies, but the author's zeal in collecting information is well-known, and may be testified to by

\* *The Life of Baboo Hurrish Chandra Mookerjee; the Founder of the Hindoo Patriot.* By Ram Gopal Sanyal. Calcutta, 1887.

the leaders of the British Indian Association, in spite of whose astute evasion or determined denial, he ferretted out the mysterious 'Trust Deed of the Hindoo Patriot', about which the curiosity of a whole generation had been baulked, and which now remains in Sanyal's book, for all time, a monument of the wisdom, legal lore, business capacity and Bengali scholarship of the leading Baboos and Rajas of Calcutta. On the present occasion, as before, he not only consulted published records but went about making personal enquiries. We have spoken of the publication as one on the life and times of Hurrish, because in presenting to his countrymen 'Hurrish' labours as a publicist, it was necessary to take a glance at the public occurrences of those days, like the Mutinies of 1857. Accordingly, this work contains perhaps the best translation of some of the most celebrated historical documents of that eventful period. Whatever may be thought of Baboo Sanyal's pretensions to Bengali authorship or taste, he has been assisted by, or has worked under the eye of, experienced writers like Baboos Aghor Nath Kumar, Rajani Kant Gupta, and Akhay Chunder Sarkar. The accomplished writer last named contributes an appropriate introduction.

#### THE SIR JOHN LAWRENCE INQUIRY.

A REJOINDER.

I sincerely regret that your contemporary of the *Indian Daily News* should take it so to heart that you Mr. Editor, alone, have dared to let the public know the other and true side of the *Sir John Lawrence* inquiry question. For it is well known that a deal of influence has been employed and trouble taken, to prevent even a single line from me being published, though columns in praise of the *Sir John Lawrence* and all the honourable gentlemen, connected with her agency, outfit, survey, and loss, have been as plentiful as the notices of the Jubilee.

Surely they should not begrudge me only one letter, on behalf of myself and the friends of those hundreds, whose voices shall be heard no more, except in the long ceaseless wail of the widow and orphan. They say I am angry with the manager. Oh no! I am only grieved, and that sadly, to see a British merchant sit, listen, and smile approvingly, while a number of men swore, a patch, well known to be below the water line, was some eight feet higher up. It is hard that these latter, for perhaps only a temporary advantage, should be so pressed as to forget their manhood, truth, and even the purport of an oath. Still truth, like murder, will out. The time is not far distant when he that urged them and they, shall render an account of that evidence, before a tribunal that all the legal skill and influence of this world will fail to blind. Again, I say, I am not angry, for I should have been a madman, to have expected any other issue to an inquiry which was such a fitting sequel to the surveys that preceded it. I am only sorry, that so many gentlemen should have been so long, though profitably, employed in ingeniously endeavouring to discover everything favourable, and nothing that should shock the feelings of the powers that are. Those powers, that command that mighty lever, which can bid the press applaud, dull the conscience and close the mouths of needy men. Your contemporary of the *I. D. N.* says I am a sailor. He is right; I am. It was a title, I was once proud of. But when I see the master of a little paddle boat, who might have some claim to be a gentleman, swear, for the sake of qudos from big owners, that the *Sir John Lawrence* was staunch and strong, at the very rottenest period of her existence, only a short time before she was condemned, it was time I ceased to value the title. Your contemporary says I was dismissed. But he don't say, it was because I insisted on the long needed repairs being done, nor does he tell how the honourable firm of Macneill & Co., and also the Master, went out of their way to compose a testimonial that should express their high approbation of my character and service rendered.

As this testimonial is signed by the firm, had it been a Promissory Note for a lack of Rupees, the law would have compelled them to make it good. But as it is only one man's good name at stake, it is a matter for grave consideration what the law would do. I hold the

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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No. 295

## News & Comments.

HERE is news to be sure, with appropriate comment :—  
“A Danish magazine rifle is described as shooting ‘six times in a second.’ War over in half-an-hour. Peace restored, with Schleswig-Holstein regained?”

The Transatlantic monopoly of—“lofty” eloquence is in danger.

COLONEL YATES and Major Peacocke who have been appointed to mark out the Afghan boundary on behalf of the English Government, have proceeded to Constantinople. And why?

At a baby show held recently at Pantin, a woman appeared with three babies, whom she brought into the world on the same day. Last year this very woman brought forth a twin. This is multiplication in arithmetical progression. It is keeping with rare devotion and self sacrifice the command to be fruitful.

CHIVALRY seems ingrained in nature. The universe in all its most violent and most terrific forces, spares woman. From a statement of the deaths by lightning since 1854, it appears that for 2,222 men killed, there were only 620 women who lost their lives from the same cause. So the *feu du ciel* has been less indulgent to men than to women. Or is the gallantry of the thunder due to the simple fact that women less expose themselves than men during storms?

THE following is going the round of the French Press, and no better illustration could be given of the irreverent pass to which the French have come :—

“An aeronaut once mounted so high that he, it is said, reached the heaven of heavens, where dwells the Eternal Father, who received him and said :—

“It is very kind of you to come so far to wish me good morning.”  
“Oh, my good God,” said the aeronaut, “do not thank me. If I have had some ballasts, I would have passed on without saying any thing to you.”

This is the very saturnalia of materialism! It is anthromorphism degenerated almost to Fetichism! And art thou come to this, O land of Massillon and Bossuet and Fénelon?

SIR JOHN PULESTON has patented a new light which is expected to supersede illumination by gas and electricity. It is obtained by an admixture of air with minute particles of oil. It is said to have been employed with success at some places, such as the Frith of Forth bridge. It is very much cheaper than gas and electric lamps. For our part, we cordially hail the advent of the coming deliverer. Gas is an abomination and electricity a positive danger.

VERILY, the wealth of Ormus and of Ind is poverty beside the possessions of the bloated plutocracy of America. Behold one of these uncoroneted Princes of the Period and the Republic!—

“An American millionaire astonished and delighted a company of young friends whom he was regaling with a dinner, the menu of which was composed of all the delicacies out of season and from the most distant lands, together with wines and liqueurs to match. He told them after the repast, while the smoke circled above and the wine circulated below, the history of his wealth, and produced in proof some very astonishing bank-notes from his portemonnaie, likewise many rare and priceless specimen gems. Finally he gave his leg a smart tap with a knife, when it emitted a sweet, soft, ringing tone which ‘fell pleasantly on the ear.’ ‘That, my friends, is made of virgin Cali-

fornian gold, and the garter is of diamonds of the first water.’ They verified the fact as he rolled up his trousers.”

Was ever vulgarity and imbecility like to that? Talk no more of the barbaric wealth of these Indies! The East may be barbaric, nay barbarian if you prefer it, but the true Midas flourishes in America.

A POOR naked native boy, who was employed in picking up balls at the viceregal tennis court at Simla, has disappeared. There is no river or pond or well at the station and the poor little fellow had left his clothes and effects at his father's to fetch provisions in the market-place. The good people of Simla do not consider a native lad worth kidnapping.

A SUDDEN heavy shower on the 16th has caused in Belgaum disastrous floods. Four passengers of the mail tonga for Dharwar, were washed away at the Mohsenhall bridge, but have escaped, the coachman and syce being drowned, however. The mail bags have been recovered.

IN the Punjab they buy and sell examination papers. Oude has out-Punjabed the Punjab. There a person has just been arrested for selling with their replies Papers for the examination of Junior Officers, Deputy Collectors and Tehsildars.

THE Thakore Sahib of Gondal celebrated, on the 21st, his twenty-third birthday, by remitting old balances due to the State. This is an Oriental way of respecting the laws of repose. The amount is given at Rs. 56,000. Was the celebration confined to this announcement by the chief Karbari?

WE had since some time marked the following pith of a note in the *Indian Agriculturist* but could not find room for it before :—

“A tuber affected with the disease, had been submitted for examination to a chemist, who however, was unable to arrive at any satisfactory conclusion, and the diseased specimen was inadvertently placed on the plate of a portable stove in the laboratory, where it remained unnoticed for several weeks, the outside becoming perfectly charred by daily semi-roastings. It was about to be thrown away, when curiosity to ascertain the vitality of germinating power under such seemingly destructive conditions, suggested the experiment of planting it, which was accordingly done. On the flower appearing in due course, the tubers were dug up and found perfectly free from disease. The fact was immediately published, and a series of experiments instituted, resulting we believe in the extinction of the blight. In some cases if we remember aright, the seed potatoes were submitted to 212° in an oven, and even survived this ordeal, producing perfectly healthy tubers, and of improved quality.”

That note only shows the general importance of cautious observation but also the particular influence of heat on the improvement of the potatoe. This root is one of our most valuable produce and the cultivator will, we hope, profit by it.

THE Game Preservation Bill, now in the Viceroy's Council, is a move in the right direction. It seems to be due to a wave of sympathy for the mute and apparently uncomplaining of God's creatures, which, originating in Great Britain, has rolled across the seas to these shores. For instance,

“A lady writing to an English contemporary says—It is very sad to me to think of the hundreds of pretty little feathered creatures that are killed every year to decorate the hats and bonnets of gentle, loving women. It is not hardheartedness, nor, I think, altogether vanity which makes us see, without a pang of regret for the shortened life, the wing, or perhaps the whole of a soft, bright-eyed bird being worn by

almost every woman we meet, but only the want of thought. We stop before a shop window to admire a hat, and perhaps exclaim, 'Oh, what a pretty little bird!' but do we think how much prettier that little bird must have been when flying about in the woods and fields, feeding its young, and sending its song of joy up to the skies above? How much happier are we for the destruction of so many lives, and were we meant wantonly to destroy what was intended to beautify the world and gladden the hearts of men with song merely to satisfy our own vanity? But it can be only want of thought that makes women plead for the poor pigeons tortured to satisfy men's vanity, and to suffer other birds to be slaughtered without protest for the gratification of their own."

That reminds us of the characteristic commencement of Sydney Smith's famous article in the *Edinburgh Review* on the sacrifice of the Chinney-sweeps.

THE Consular Service is not usually much regarded, if it is at all thought of. Perhaps its misfortune chiefly lies in its inequality. There are more bad bargains in it than in the regular *Corps diplomatique*, or any other branch of the public service. There are many good men and true among the diplomats of commerce, however, and at times a man of achieved distinction in other walks takes refuge in that line, like the late Charles Lever, while at others men of merit discover themselves, like the American Schuyler. The normal way in which, in ordinary times, consuls show the stuff of which they are made, is by their annual or occasional reports, in which they are often able to embody information and views useful or important to their Governments. Just now Her Britannic Majesty is well represented by a consular agent in the vast and undeveloped Lusitanian empire of South America. This is an officer of accurate observation and practical aims, who has the requisite courage to speak out.

MR. Consul Bennett, in his report on the trade of Rio Grande do Sul, thus speaks of the British workmen:—

"I should wish to say, that the experience I have had of British workmen who have come out here is very unsatisfactory. They are generally given to drink, are unsteady, exacting, and overbearing, and are a great contrast to foreigners. In the few undertakings here originally commenced under British auspices, and with British workpeople, such as the coal mines, gas works, &c., both of which are now in other hands, the British are generally got rid of, and their places filled by others, foreigners, Germans, Italians, and others, who are found more steady and reliable. The experience of British contractors here appears to be the same, and they prefer foreign to British labourers such as are to be met with here. Even the British steamers engaged in the coasting trade between here and Rio de Janeiro prefer a foreign to a British crew, the latter giving far more trouble and annoyance. These remarks are suggested by an experience extending over a considerable number of years, and it is an unpleasant and depressing fact to an Englishman to find his fellow-countrymen compare so unfavourably with other nationalities."

It is a good sign when a nation begins to know itself. In the controversy on the loss of the *Tasmania*, the P. O. Company predicated nothing more against the British seaman than Consul Bennett here says against the British workman in general. Yet to what obloquy were they not exposed! What a dust was raised, what vials of indignation were poured on their heads, for daring to hint the truth! The uncompromising supporters of British privilege and blind believers in absolute British perfection under all circumstances and situations, resented the slightest suggestion that the native *Khalasi* could, by any possibility, prove more accessible than the British sailor. We therefore hail this disinterested testimony to the same from the Far South-West, from a responsible British Consul and presumably, nay evidently a patriotic Briton.

MR. Bennett is singularly free from national bias. In the same report, he thus comments on the ways of British merchants:—

"The fact is, it is not so much British manufactures that have been driven out of the field, as that British merchants have had the foreign trade with their own country wrested from them, and the question arises, How is this? I will endeavour to briefly give a reason, which does not seem to have been touched upon in the correspondence which has taken place, but which in my opinion appears to be a very important one, and one of considerable influence in the question under notice. Hardly any English house appears to take any trouble to provide itself with successors for the time when the founders or actual chiefs have to retire, in order to continue the business. The *employés* are looked upon as *employés*, and nothing more; partnerships are seldom, if ever, given to them, and are certainly not held out as a reward for long and steady service. The consequence is, when the principals grow old or sufficiently wealthy to make them more or less independent of business, there is no one in the concern with sufficient interest to push it properly, and compete with younger and more vigorous opponents, especially when these are foreigners. In this way, houses are continually dying out, for even if there are sons, they are generally in England, enjoying the fruits of their father's industry, which they are inclined to prefer to the drudgery and drawbacks of commercial life abroad. The

Germans, on the other hand, seem to take care to provide themselves with successors in their clerks, whom they make junior partners as the older partners retire, and so the continuity of the house is carried on with all the advantage of unbroken connection and experience joined to new blood and ideas. The business is kept, so to speak, in the same hands—at any rate, the same nationality. There is, of course, no advantage to the individual members of English firms personally in securing successors to their business, but I think there can be no question as to the great advantage, from a national point of view, in the German system of keeping the business together. It may be true that there is a difficulty on the part of English houses in finding suitable successors among their *employés*, for it is, unfortunately, a fact that the British clerk is inferior to his German colleague in commercial education and qualifications, such as a knowledge of foreign languages, &c.; but this has been widely discussed elsewhere, and there is no occasion, to enlarge on the subject here, though it is probably one of the reasons why the British merchant himself has to give way to his more linguistically gifted competitor. New houses of English or other nationality are, of course, being constantly established in different places, but even in this new British firms are generally at a disadvantage compared with new German firms. There is little doubt that a young German house can get far more assistance and facilities in the way of credits, &c., in Germany than a young English firm can get in England. There is more clannishness and backing up of one's countrymen amongst the Germans than there is amongst the English; and I go so far as to say that even in England more facilities are given, or, at any rate, facilities are more readily given to foreign than to English houses. As long as these matters remain as they are, there is nothing very surprising in the fact that English merchants are being replaced by Germans, by which British manufactures and trade generally must suffer in the long run."

Instead of boycotting him, we hope these merchants will have the good sense to profit by their Consul's remarks. He treats of a most vital topic. His facts will not account for the gradual decay of British commerce, of which there are symptoms in many parts of the globe. Thus, the East India merchants are above the narrow-mindedness of their brethren in South America, being wont as a rule to promote their servants to partners. Nevertheless, it is a pity that any British merchants should be so short-sighted as these of this Rio, and it is to be hoped that the publication of their Consul's report will lead them to put their house in order.

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THE Viceroy leaves Simla on the 3rd of November. The following is the official programme of the Viceregal tour from the 11th November:

Novr. 11th, Friday	... Leave Bhun at 6 A. M. and arrive at Kurrachee 4-30 P. M.
" 12th, Saturday	} Halt at Kurrachee.
" 13th, Sunday	
" 14th, Monday	
" 15th, Tuesday	... Leave Kurrachee at 3 P. M., and arrive at Kotri at 9 P. M.
" 16th, Wednesday	... Leave Kotri at 6 A. M., and arrive at Sukkur Bunder at 7 P. M.
" 17th, Thursday	... Leave Sukkur Bunder at 10-15 A. M. and arrive at Ahmedpore at 8 P. M.
" 18th, Friday	... Leave Ahmedpore at 6 A. M., and arrive at Dera Ghazi Khan at about 5-20 P. M.
" 19th, Saturday	... Halt at Dera Ghazi Khan.
" 20th, Sunday	... Leave Dera Ghazi Khan at 7-45 A. M., arrive Darya Khan 4-30 P. M. and at Dera Ismail Khan at about 6-30 P. M.
" 21st, Monday	... Return to Darya Khan.
" 22nd, Tuesday	... Leave Darya Khan at 6 A. M., and arrive at Khewra at 6 P. M.
" 23rd, Wednesday	... Leave Khewra at 1-45 P. M., and arrive at Dana at 8 P. M.
" 24th, Thursday	... Leave Dana at 6 A. M. and arrive at Peshawar at 5 P. M.
" 25th, Friday	} Halt at Peshawar.
" 26th, Saturday	
" 27th, Sunday	
" 28th, Monday	... Leave Peshawar at 9-30 A. M., and arrive at Kohat at 5 P. M.
" 29th, Tuesday	... Halt at Kohat.
" 30th, Wednesday	... Leave Kohat at 9 A. M., and arrive at Rawal Pindi at 5-30 P. M.
Decr. 1st, Thursday	} Halt at Rawal Pindi.
" 2nd, Friday	
" 3rd, Saturday	
" 4th, Sunday	} Halt at Lahore.
" 5th, Monday	
" 6th, Tuesday	
" 7th, Wednesday	... Leave Lahore at 6 A. M. and arrive Meerut Cantonment at 7-30 P. M.
" 8th, Thursday	... Leave Meerut Cantonment at 6 A. M., visit Agra Fort, and arrive at Bhurtpore at 4-20 P. M.
" 9th, Friday	} Halt at Bhurtpore.
" 10th, Saturday	
" 11th, Sunday	
" 12th, Monday	... Leave Bhurtpore 5-40 P. M. and arrive Agra at 7-15 P. M.
" 13th, Tuesday	... Leave Agra at 6 A. M. and arrive Allahabad at 5-27 P. M.

- " 14th Wednesday Halt at Allahabad.  
 " 15th Thursday ... Leave Allahabad at 11 A. M. and arrive at Benares at 3-30 P. M.  
 " 16th Friday ... Leave Benares at 9-30 P. M.  
 " 17th Saturday ... Arrive at (Sealdah) Calcutta at 4-42 P. M. (Ky. Time) or 5 P. M. Calcutta Time.

FOUR Englishmen were captured by brigands near Smyrna and were not released till £750 ransom was paid down.

THE High Court resumed work yesterday after the Long Vacation.

At an extraordinary meeting of the Chandernagore municipality, which took place on the 20th instant, M. Louis Liotard was elected Mayor and M. Nondo Lall Bhor Deputy Mayor of the settlement.

THE *Statesman* has always something startling, and edifying too, perhaps. Here is an instalment for one of these week-days—in the shape of a letter to the editor which appeared on the 27th:—

"Sir,—The other morning, coming down to work from Wellington-square in a tram car, I was accosted by a gentleman of clerical aspect, and asked to sign my name to a twelve-sheet foolscap memorial, praying for legislative measures for the suppression of Hindoo child marriages. Now, Sir, would it not be better if this reverend gentleman turned his attention to the European, Anglo-Indian, and Eurasian members of his flock and their morals. Calcutta at present is full of immorality. I can name more than four gentlemen holding positions of trust and respectability who have women living under their protection, and these women or harlots are received into society with open arms. Young innocent girls budding into womanhood, are allowed by careless parents to go about to dances and social gatherings in company with these harlots and their paramours, for they generally have more than one. Imbecile husbands also allow their wives (in many instances young girls) to drive about the Strand, go to theatres, dances, and other places; and there are many girls now at the bid of any wealthy 'roué,' who though married, have been led astray by associates, and through the careless weakness of their husbands. My statements may seem exaggerated to many, but there are people in this city who can verify them. If clergymen will attend to the morals of their own flocks they will find that they will have enough to do.

"VOX POPULI.

"Calcutta, October 26, 1887."

That is a practical commentary not only on the philanthropic exertions for Hindu social reform but also on the purity movement in Anglo-Indian society. Our contemporary's correspondent is evidently no Baboo to be bullied. He speaks without hesitation because he speaks from personal knowledge and feels the evil he notices.

THE same paper writing of the Chinese in California and the violent antagonism of the whites to them, says:—

"Although for the last four years they have only been allowed to land in parties of four at a time, the decrease in their number has not been accompanied by any decrease in the enmity of European people resident on the spot. Visitors to California have as a rule been favourably impressed by the local Chinamen. They are reckoned to number about forty thousand and house themselves on a rising ground about Telegraph Hill. They are amenable in everything to American law, but in addition, they have their own tribunals, which deal with occurring cases. Joss houses, presided over by the war god Kwan-Tai, are numerous attended, and it is one of the sights to watch a religious Chinaman throwing the wooden blocks to see whether his next undertaking is to be prosperous. They have two immense theatres, where the interminable plays of China are produced. The actors have to undergo a long course of education, like Chinese literary men, before they are allowed to give representations. Another of the Californian sights is to descend to the subterranean regions beneath the theatres, and look at the ship-bunk accommodation of the stock company. 'Stars' are differently situated, having silk-hung apartments, with reclining boards for guests to smoke either opium or tobacco, and exquisite cups containing real tea. Kwan-Tai also presides in these quarters."

SURGEON-MAJOR Shirley Deakin thus condemns in a letter to the *Lancet* our drainage system:—

"Sanitarians owe a debt of gratitude to Dr. Vivian Poore for his able *exposé* of the dangers of horizontal cesspools. In India vast sums of money have during the past few years been expended in introducing systems of sewerage into Calcutta, Bombay, and Lahore. Now, two equally in my opinion, disastrous schemes are being put forward for Kurrachee and Hyderabad, Sind; and Allahabad, Lucknow, and Agra keep nibbling at them like specious baits. As a consequence of the Calcutta sewerage, epidemics of enteric fever have been notoriously prevalent during recent years, and the cholera last November was the most severe that has occurred in any year since the introduction of an incompletely distributed water-supply in 1870. As regards this cholera, it must, however, be remembered that tanks and other objectionable sources of drinking water in and about groups of huts (bustis) in the town and suburbs have not been completely eliminated, as Dr. Simpson's report on the localised outbreak on the ship *Ardenclutha* shows. The water supply is consequently still very defective. An

extraordinary and fatal fallacy is disseminated by engineers in India, to the effect that in no country is the problem of sewer ventilation so simple, because the outside air being warmer than the air inside houses, there is little fear of sewer air being drawn into houses, as in England. I believe the truth is that in no country is the problem so difficult a one. In the hot weather when the air is often perfectly stagnant for many hours, or even days, there is no perfilation, the highly heated external air (thermometer minimum in shade 115°, maximum 170°) is much lighter than the cooler sewer air, forced out by flushing and other means through the sewer "ventilating" shafts. Consequently sewer air, not diffused into the upper strata of the atmosphere and blown away by the wind as in England, falls as a disease-bearing shower towards the ground, and by its gravity occupies the lower or respiratory stratum under seven feet from the ground, poisoning the air breathed by the unfortunate tax-payer.

In the town of Muzapore (N.-W. P.) there were old sewers, not even supplied with ample flushing apparatus to force out the sewer gas into the narrow streets and alleys, yet on a hot still day the effluvium as one passes along the streets in the evening is sickening in the extreme. Forcing out foul gases, which must be rapidly generated in a hot climate by flushing would only make things worse. The only perfect remedy is to fill up the sewers and to take to the Geux or some other similar pail system. The fact that impure air expired at a temperature of 100°F. (as also sewer air from underground sewers) is cooler than the surrounding and superjacent air in a barrack at night when the temperature of the building is 106° or more, to my mind offers a full, simple and sufficient explanation of the fact that heat-stroke often attacks people in bed at night. When in the horizontal position only the four feet of air nearest the floor are practically available for respiratory purposes. Hence the great importance of ample superficial space (150 sq. ft. as a minimum) compared with cubic space."

Dr. Deakin is an avowed opponent of sewers, nevertheless his argument deserves consideration. Doubtless with underground drainage, the Calcutta streets are wider and wear a better appearance. The sewers by themselves are a calamity to the houses connected with them. If open drains were a nuisance, the sewers are a danger with the sewage gas, especially at night when there is hardly any water passing to the sewers, from the house gratings. There can be no question that the escape of gas to the houses needs prevention. Ventilators may divert a portion, but they are not sufficient. Government, however, is so satisfied with our sewers, that it has enjoined the Calcutta Corporation to complete the sewerage system at Rs. 1,50,000 a year.

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BETWEEN "an invalid certificate" and a "sick certificate," the distinction is not without a difference, though the perspicacity of Government servants is apt to miss it. Once more it is notified that "invalid certificate" means a certificate of incapacity for further service granted under the civil Pension Code, whereas "sick certificate" means a medical certificate granted under the Civil Leave Code.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*Anti-humbug* writes well on a good subject, but then he becomes foul-mouthed towards individuals. This will never do, in a respectable journal.

After this remark, we shall try to make room for the communication.

THE *Pioneer* has lately been mournfully analysing the customs returns of European liquors, thus:—

"The figures for the total importations of wines and liquors into Bengal last year are the lowest yet tabulated. Port declined by 23½ per cent., sherry by 13 per cent., champagne by 8 per cent., and even claret by 5 per cent. Similarly the dearer spirit is being given up for the cheaper. Within the last five years the imports of brandy have declined by 40,000 gallons, while whisky has risen by 30,000 gallons. Last year 1,400 cases of Exshaw, disgusted with the reception they met with at Calcutta, re-embarked in hot haste for London. Perhaps the change is seen most clearly in the case of ales, beers and porters, the imports of which have swollen by 50,000 gallons since 1883, and that concurrently with a vast development of the Indian breweries."

To the Oriental there is something queer in this spectacle of a grave, if not also reverend, publicist bewailing the decreased consumption, among his countrymen, of intoxicating beverages of any kind. But then he is an Occidental and above all a Christian. That is, by race he is a son of the Thors and Wodens mad after mead—doubtless a much

*Holloway's Pills.*—Though good health is preferable to high honour, how regardless people often are of the former—how covetous of the latter! Many suffer their strength to drain away ere maturity is reached, through ignorance of the facility afforded by these incomparable Pills of checking the first untoward symptoms of derangement, and reinstating order without interfering in the least with their pleasure or pursuits. To the young especially it is important to maintain the highest digestive efficiency, without which the growth is stunted, the muscles become lax, the frame feeble, and the mind slothful. The removal of indigestion by these Pills is so easy that none save the most thoughtless would permit it to sap the springs of life.

more serious affair than the Eastern Soma—and by creed he is a follower of a system to which wine is essential, in which, indeed, it has to stand for the blood of its Deity, to be taken for purifying the believer's body and soul. Luckily, there is balm in Gilead for our contemporary. If the consumption of one kind of liquor has fallen, that of another has risen. The taste only shows fluctuation. There is no dangerous disposition to temperance; no unmistakable symptom of growing sobriety is manifest. The indication is rather the other way. For, instead of the wholesome lighter wines, the tendency is to go in for strong stuffs—the cheap and nasty “liquid fires.” Banter apart, our contemporary may well bewail such a deterioration in the taste of Anglo-Indians. Such a change bodes no good to the children of the soil, whose happiness is so much dependent on the clearness of mind and suavity of temper of Europeans in India.

### Notes & Readerettes.

FROM Sofia comes a telegram announcing the discovery of a plot for the murder of Prince Ferdinand by the Slavs.

IT is satisfactory to note that the Great Unwashed are resuming the even tenor of their British ways. The paroxysm of the Unemployed is all but subsided. We imagine the foreign anarchists, who got up the late movement, damning the spiritless British poor of the great metropolis in the manner in which the Friend of Humanity dismissed the needy knife-grinder in the Anti-Jacobin.

CONSIDERING the desperate efforts Mr. Gladstone is making at this time of life, to establish his *Zid*—there is no European word for it—we are not surprised at his depression of health and spirits after the Nottingham Conference and his doctors enjoining on him the necessity of complete rest for a time. Or, is this a sign of despair of his policy?

MR. WILFRID BLUNT, having gone over to the Liberals, is distinguishing himself by his neophyte zeal. He is not only an out and out Radical but a rank Home Ruler out-parnelling Parnell.

For his own sake no less than for ours, whose warm friend he is, we truly regret to see him making himself notorious by the open espousal of the Irish Irreconcilables. With the Irish, the question is one of the noblest, even if it be misguided, sentiment. They may resist the British Parliament and the Imperial Government to the death, without incurring anything beyond a legal penalty—of a law which has but a limited sanction—a law that the Irish may regard as an usurpation and an act of force. The world may look on approvingly on their efforts, and even individual Englishmen may sympathise with them. No Briton, however, is justified in entering into active relations with them. But we are truly in strange times. It appears that the English Home Rule Union had announced a meeting at Woodford under the presidency of Mr. Blunt, but the Police had prohibited it. Notwithstanding the prohibition, the meeting was held, under the same Chairman, at the announced place and time, 22nd October. This was a clear defiance of authority. The Police entered the meeting and arrested the chairman and some others. Mr. Blunt was remanded and released on bail. He has since been sentenced to two months' imprisonment. An appeal has already been filed.

THE electors of Tours have taken up the case of their representative. We learn by telegraph of a stormy meeting at which they have pooh-poohed the explanations given by M. Wilson, President Grévy's son-in-law, to the charges made against him, of complicity in the late scandals in connection with the sale of Military Decorations, and have demanded resignation of his seat in the Chamber.

INFORMATION about Ayub Khan is still unsatisfactory and contradictory. One account says that he is safe with his father-in-law, the Charaimak Mogul, Chief of Tymunel, a place about 80 miles distant from Herat. On the other hand, a notice is quoted, said to have been posted by the Amir in all mosques, streets, markets, darbars, and other public places in Cabool, to the effect that “Sardar Ayub Khan, son of Amir Shere Ali Khan, after escaping from the King of Persia, made an attack on Herat with the aid of rebels in order to take possession of Afghanistan. He was totally defeated and drowned in the Herat river together with his four men.”

THE reckless expenditure on military preparations and wars, in which all the powers in the world have of late years involved themselves, is telling itself in Asia as in Europe. We all know what has been going on in our country. Ever since the Forward Policy of the Lytton administration was launched, we are feeling its inevitable effects on the finances and the prosperity of India. Turkey and Egypt are notorious beggars and even worse. Russia is far from solvent. Austria and the rest are scarcely more enviably circumstanced. And now it is said that China, having gone in for the Western Military luxury, has just been reduced to borrow £500,000 of a French syndicate for carrying on the Imperial Household. Herein we get the true clue to the extraordinary decree lately issued for a niggardly outlay on the Imperial Marriage.

MR. CORDERY, being again unwell, takes a month's leave, Major Robertson, the first Assistant to the Resident, acting for him. With Colonel Marshall as the factotum on all sides, the Alpha and Omega at Hyderabad, with the privilege of addressing our Government direct and visiting the Viceroy when necessary, the Residency might almost be abolished or considerably reduced and a large saving made.

As might be expected, the other Native Princes are uneasy under the implied imputation of being behind the Nizam in loyalty to the Paramount Power, and solicitude for its stability. Accordingly, already we hear several of them have come forward to pay the new political tax and pray to be permitted to join in the offer of Hyderabad. We really pity these poor Princes. They must beg, borrow, or steal, in order to keep their honor and their possessions. They certainly must borrow or oppress, rather than be suspected of not sympathising enough with the financial condition of their protector or with the latter's difficulties in providing for defence against external contingences.

WE have today a rare surprise in store for the reader. What if we tell him that the great wall of China is all—nonsense. From an article, apparently borrowed from a European source, in *Le Petit Bengali* of Chandernagore, it appears that the Abbe Larrien, an old missionary in China, has published a work on the subject, in which he shows that the wall has never existed. Hitherto every one believed that this wall bordered on the frontier of China from the sea to the province of Kansu. Constructed in a straight line, cutting the valleys and mountains and overcoming all obstacles, it was understood to have no other breaches than those caused by time. According to the writer of the article, a Jesuit Father, Martini by name, who visited China in the year 1650, was the first to give a description of the wall, and subsequent writers have followed him. But Abbe Larrien lived several years at the very place where ought to be the shadow of the great wall if it had existed. He studied the works of later writers, and in special he consulted the itinerary of Abbe Ilue, who had passed over the line of that celebrated wall. He also made researches into the Chinese history on the subject. And here is the conclusion at which he arrived.

The famous great wall has been the cause of no end of mysteries and romances. The expression itself was derived from the Chinese phrase—“the wall of ten thousand leagues.” Martini and the writers who followed him, pretended to describe it. But it does not exist and has never existed. A Chinese Emperor indeed conceived the idea of a great wall from the gulf of Lião-Song on the east to Kansu on the west, and that idea, although never realized, had, however, a commencement of execution. All along the proposed wall, they built some towers, which were not united by any wall as had been originally decided. In some defiles, are to be seen some walls, but these were made for defending certain passages or are simply fortifications of a village, and not portions of a continued work of the projected great wall, only the construction of these towers has been executed, the rest are nothing more than the idea of those who had conceived it. In fact, this great wall is nothing more than a myth.

This immense wall, according to the Abbe, is a huge Celestial fabrication, and the millions of soldiers who protect it day and night a pure myth.

*Sic transit gloria mundi.* Such is the end of the great wall of China, which has been revered as one of the seven wonders of the world. *Requiescat in pace!*



THE old Arab colony of Zanzibar on the African coast, which the first Portuguese navigators touched at, and which not long ago had employed British diplomacy and provoked British vengeance as a slave State—the protector of slave-hunters and slave-dealers—has much changed within the last few years. And it is daily advancing. In a few years it will be the theatre of great events. The Sultan himself must feel it. The process which has converted the European warehouse at the ports into the British Empire of India, has commenced on the African coast. Already, its resources have been developed into a veritable and constant source of anxiety for Zanzibar's sovereign. Soon his kingdom will be improved out of his hands.

AFTER his arduous trial in the Marine Court of Inquiry, our Chief Magistrate may well feel himself under the necessity of rehabilitating himself by an interval of rest. We are accordingly not surprised to learn that Mr. Reily avails himself of the privilege leave due for one month, and goes up to Darjeeling. For reporting on the more recent loss of the *Arcof*, stranded in the same Mukraputty Lumps which swallowed the *Mahratta*, Government has ordered a Court of Enquiry composed of Mr. E. V. Westmacott, C. S., President—the same who presided at the *Mahratta* Enquiry—with Captain E. W. Petley, R. N., member.

Mr. Gordon Leith officiates as Chief Presidency Magistrate, during Mr. Reily's absence. This is a disappointment to the other stipendiary. He had doubtless hoped that Sir Stuart Bayley—his Behar patron—would prove more propitious than was Sir Rivers Thompson, and allow him the taste of the dignity of the head of the magistracy, specially as he could enjoy it for only a limited time. But then patrons are proverbially slippery, you know. Who does not remember how a greater man than the Hon'ble Syud was jilted by Lord Chesterfield? For ourself, novice as we are in these mysteries of High Life—Below stairs, we cannot prescribe anything better for the consolation of our friend than a study of the celebrated literary chastisement provoked by the neglect of merit on that occasion. It is something, at any rate, that he is above the other liabilities of unlucky genius classed with "the patron" by the Satirist in his mournful couplet.

WE have been no less surprised than shocked at the attitude, or rather the total absence of it, assumed by the Hindu community with respect to the "Sir John Lawrence" disaster. Whatever may be our opinion of the constitution of the inquiring body, or the way in which the investigation proceeded, we would rather not question the conclusions arrived at by the Court of Inquiry. For, upon the facts brought before it, any other conclusion was perhaps not possible. But we are certainly of opinion that if the relatives of the unhappy pilgrims, who perished in the terrible cyclone of 25th May last, had taken ordinary care in ascertaining the usual condition of things on the Pilgrimage to Orissa by sea, or at least in employing experts to check the stream of assertion in court, and sift the evidence tendered, there would have been a more promising result. To us, the apathy shown by the community at large, including the noisy politicians, has been disheartening. The neglect of the relatives of the deceased, which may well be characterized as cruel and inhuman, seems inscrutable. While the relatives and friends of the dead have quietly slept over the loss, we were really delighted to see a marble tablet fixed on the Southern wall of the Hooghly Bridge Ghaut by a few "Englishwomen" to whom our grateful thanks are due for the quiet and unostentatious way in which they have tried to preserve the memory of the sad loss of the memorable 25th of May 1887.

The tablet is in English and Bengali; the English portion of it runs thus:—

"This stone is Dedicated, by a few Englishwomen, to the Memory, of those Pilgrims, mostly Women, who perished with the 'Sir John Lawrence,' in the Cyclone of 25th May 1887."

MUNICIPAL squabbles are getting lively. The disposition to fight over Municipal votes has crossed over from Barranagar to Uttarpara, on the opposite bank.

There was lately a row at Uttarpara on the occasion of Municipal election.

A few days ago, Municipal Overseer Sarat Chunder Chatterjee happened to remonstrate with Babu Rajendra Lal Mookerjee, son of the Hon'ble Rajah Peary Mohun Mookerjee, when he and others were making a regular noise in the municipal office regarding votes.

They had an altercation over it on the spot, but it led to nothing serious. The Mookerjees, however, seem to have taken the thing to heart and meditated chastisement of the impudent underling of the corporation. So, as the overseer was on his way home, he was way-laid in front of Babu Joykissen Mookerjee's house by young Rajendra. The overseer is the son of Babu Lokenath Chatterjee, who had, about 2 years or more ago, quarrelled with Babu Joykissen, the grand-sire of this Babu Rajendra Lal *alias* Misree Babu, and having been a robust man had given a hard push to his opponent on the road where they were both taking a morning walk. This may account for the length to which this affair has gone. It is a pity that such feelings descend to the second and third generation. The overseer laid a complaint in the Serampore Magistrate's Court, where the case was postponed two or three times.

We regret to hear that the young man Rajendra was yesterday sentenced to 12 hours' simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 51. The fine was at first fixed at Rs. 50, but on counsel's begging very hard of the Court, 1 rupee was added to the fine to make the sentence appealable. Such is the account as it comes to us. We do not vouch for the particulars; having neither seen the judgment nor inquired into the matter ourself.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1887.

### THE MOTE IN THE BROTHER'S EYE.

THE English papers note that in the latest maps received from Paris, Madagascar is marked as a French colony, although it has not become so yet. And this is looked upon as a specimen of sharp practice unworthy of a respectable Government or nation like the French. To us, this criticism is scarcely worthy of British candour, to say nothing of magnanimity. It is this sort of gratuitous taunts of the British press that, as much as the gruffness and overbearing impertinence of British travellers, so deeply alienates foreign races against a people of such substantial worth, who scatter their money freely wherever they go, whether in Afghan valleys or Italian campaigns, in Andalusian groves or German watering-places. The fact in question admits of easy solution without such unfavorable assumptions. It is matter of mere commercial convenience. It is of a piece with the anticipatory publication of periodicals before date, to beguile the public by a fictitious celerity. It is akin, too, to the antedating of books by 'cute publishers, to prolong by a few months their duration of their newness in the market. As such, it is not quite defensible; it is rather "sharp" trading, to be sure. But, at the worst, the fault committed is a venial one. It no doubt leads to awkward mistakes at times. It puzzles the bibliographer and creates confusion in the history of learning. Under peculiar coincidences of circumstances, it may affect large interests in property or touching the peace of nations. It may be the death of some luckless men. Yet, it must be admitted, that it is not so seriously regarded. We, for our part, would gladly see it prohibited by law. But so long as it is not, and the sentiment of mankind being not against it, it were unfair to judge a particular individual harshly for doing what is commonly done in the open day, and without reproach. It is the universal practice, one might say. How do we get our London periodicals in apparently less time than it takes the mail to carry them? Nay, if chronological anticipation of the kind is wrong, the gress is habitually and of deliberation aforethought, puitly every day. Is not the date of every newspaper—*Reis & Rayyet* alone excepted—a regular imposition? The editors and his *collaborateurs* invariably mean "to-morrow" when they say "to-day." There

is occasionally a derangement of tenses visible due to this unreality. Usually, a day is thus burked, sometimes even two days. For, in Christendom the Monday's papers are done up, for the most part, before Sunday, and, in strict truth, ought to bear the date of Saturday.

Even supposing the French to have, in their new maps, anticipated events in the regions of their political and diplomatic activity, in the distant parts of the world, our political department might teach the French a lesson or two in that line. What was the reason of our former Lieutenant-Governor Sir George Campbell's persistent solicitude to change the designation of the territory of the Orrissan Chfefs, and the Maharajas of Cooch Behar and Tipperah from "States" to "estates"? What is the secret of giving the last-named country the new name of the "Hill Tipperah"? Surely, the British are not such utter innocents as not to understand the thing! Indeed, they might be expected to appreciate it with the sympathy of brother-craftsmen. It is certainly well-understood in India. We have no doubt that our official geographers are not a whit behind the French cartographers.

#### IS IT RELIGION OR SUPERSTITION?

##### I.

WE believe if this question was put individually to men and women, as regards their faith and practice, most of them would find a difficulty in giving an honest and lucid answer. We purpose to view the question chiefly from a Christian standpoint; but yet our remarks are made in a cosmopolitan spirit, so as to suit the varied religious beliefs of our fellow-townsmen and fellow-countrymen. Whosoever the cap fits, we trust will honestly accept it. It cannot be denied that a very large proportion of superstitious sentiment mingles with the religion of the day. Especially is this true with respect to women. We do not so much believe as fear to disbelieve. If the real inner feeling of the heart were laid bare in its true nature and character, it would be found that most of us are rather careless than conscientious, with more of indifference than of doubt, as to the sincerity of our convictions. How many of us have gone on year after year praying and believing, after a fashion, from the force of habit formed in childhood, and not from any deep conviction or certainty at all! It is right that this should be looked into, because just as it is true that, "if in this life only we have hope we are of all men most miserable," for has it not most correctly been said, that as surely as sparks fly upward, so inevitably are all men born to trouble, sorrow and woe; this life has more of sorrow and heaviness than of light-heartedness and joy; the shadows come oftenest, and the rays of light are few and far between, resembling angels' visits; thus it comes to be no less true that, if what we are pleased to call faith is, in fact, fear, we ought to know the truth about ourselves, be it ever so disquieting. The next life is the real hope of all men. There we should have sure ground to step on.

It is humiliating to think we are superstitious; and yet we venture to say that this is the just designation of the conventional religious character. What is the dread of working out the facts about faith but superstition? It was superstition made the Athenians worship an "unknown God." They thought they knew a great deal about the inner world, and had included all the deities according to their system in the calendar of their religion; but they were not quite sure, probably there might be yet another god somewhere, and so they erected an altar to the unknown, lest he should punish them for their neglect, or in some way avenge the omission to do him homage. There can be no question that this was the motive of their extra reach of religious sentiment. The key-note of religion throughout the universe has always been fear, whereas it should be love. Dread of the supernatural is the basis of belief. To speak plainly—and it is well to be honest—man has never desired to have a God; he has not longed for a close relation to his Maker. He would, if he could order things his own way, prefer not to have a master. It is only because he has an

inner feeling that there must be a Supreme Being, the Lord and Maker of all, that he troubles himself about religion. Adam would have greatly preferred not to hear the voice of God walking in the garden in the heat of the day. It disturbed him. He was happy, in spite of his sin, until he became aware of the Presence of the Deity. It was when this unwelcome fact was forced upon his consciousness that his conscience began to work and he felt ashamed. The excuse he made was that he was "naked." This, of course, was a mere plea of craft, for he had not been clothed before; but now he knew that he was naked and felt ashamed. In truth, he feared. This same idea became developed afterwards, and the "fear of God" began to be synonymous with religion. Making every allowance for what is said as to the meaning of this word "fear," and the attempt to show that it simply means "honour," it must be obvious, on a very little reflection, that the notion is actually as we have described it. Now, "perfect love casteth out fear, for fear hath torment," and the highest development of religion is the end of fear. If one reads the Scriptures in the spirit instead of the letter—"for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life"—we shall find this sentiment of fear is ever distasteful to God. In so far therefore as religion is a superstructure on the basis of fear, it is not the religion of God; it can have no just claim to be regarded as the religion acceptable to man's Maker and Benefactor.

Superstition is an undefined dread of the unseen. It may take any one of many differing forms, but it is the same thing under any and every manipulation or disguise. Whether it be the terror of an unenlightened mortal who is terrified into the persuasion that something must be done to rule the planets in his favour, and thereby to avert some great calamity; or the dread of the village yokel who nails a horse-shoe on the step of his cottage door to keep off the spirits; or the morbid apprehension of a cultured mind that any omission in the matter of "saying prayers," or "reading the Bible," or due attendance on constituted ordinances, will be visited on the head of the offender, it is superstition and not love that animates the heart and is the basis of the principle which underlies and runs through the most approved system of religion in these modern times. This last mentioned "feeling" must be as unwholesome as it is unnatural, and destructive of that which is good and useful in the control and discipline of the soul. It is no part of our duty, nor is it our desire, to argue in support of particular views of the supernatural. We have always been careful to take up an independent standpoint in discussing subjects of this class. Our sole object is to assert and enforce the claims of perfect honesty and truthfulness with respect to matters of religion. It is for others to uphold the details of particular systems and embodiments of faith as they may think right. What we personally believe is a matter outside the limits of our province here. There is common ground for all and we are assured it is ground which ought to be taken up in the interests of that Truth which is great and must prevail. If we are asked to name that ground, we say it is sincerity. If a man will deal honestly by himself and see that he is really in earnest in his truth-seeking, he will soon know of any special doctrine or form of faith whether it be of God. If he be not honest, it matters nothing whether what he believes be true or false. The aim and object of our endeavour are to expose the crucial importance of being "right at heart." There are stages or processes of development in relation to religious sentiment and opinion as to everything else, and we have long felt and feel strongly that the present is a time of trifling rather than of honest scepticism. The instability that characterises religious thought is not so much due to change of view or method as to lack of earnestness and truthfulness. The subject is so solemnly important that we feel we cannot be too plain in the language we use.

There are two forms or descriptions of superstition—the one which characterises ignorant people, and the other which marks the feeble clinging of better-informed but not more truthful, minds to the policy of fear. We cannot conceive any more contemptible posture of the consciousness than that which makes a man conduct himself as though he had not the courage of his convictions, as if in this matter of religion he argued, "I do not feel at all sure that the belief in which I have been brought up is a good and true one; but it may be, and so I will, although I have ceased to have confidence in it, continue to observe its rites and perform its

function, because, after all, it perhaps is true, and I should like to derive any benefit which may accrue to accepting it." Can any honest or true man for one moment persuade himself that such a sentiment as this, is even tolerable in the sight of God? Why, with a strong conviction that God does see the heart and that He knows what is the real state of feeling in the secret of our inner consciences, will we go about trying to deceive ourselves into the belief that this mind-posture is permissible? The very cherishing of such a sentiment is in itself an offence against God! The very adoption of such a policy is a flat contradiction of the fundamental article of faith—namely, that there is a God, and that the secrets of all hearts are known to Him! Beyond question, to address God in such a spirit is to outrage the first principles of spiritual decency! Nevertheless, this posture is the essence of that form of superstition which we are specially concerned to expose and denounce.

L.

### THE BIRTH OF PERFECTION.

TAKE notice all whom it may concern that the day of small things is about to be determined. Great events are at hand. We are at the threshold of a mighty era. Nay, we have floated down the sea of Brobdingnag and fairly got into Laputa, without perceiving it. In fact, we are far away into the *annus mirabilis* itself, only it reserves all its force for its penultimate chapter. But the fulness of time is come at last. The quickening process has been accomplished—the gestation is nearly over. The birth foretold by Prophets and prospectors is at hand. The *enfant terrible* may be expected any day before Saturday next.

"From the first week of November"—so runs the Gospel—"will be published in Calcutta the first weekly paper in India that will aspire to compete with the best journals of Europe and America."

Here is promise, indeed!—and prudence, too! Shoot at the stars, that you may be sure of keeping yourself above the heads of men. As for the mountebanks who rule the roast in Asia, they are simply beneath contempt.

That is our leaders' concern rather than our own. The name of the phenomenal birth is appropriate. We have the "Indian Spectator," the "Standard," the "Times of India," and the "Advocate of India." We have even the "Nation," we are now to have the "National Guardian." The country may well be congratulated on the near prospect of such an important acquisition. Of course,

"The 'National Guardian' will mark an era in the history of journalism in this country."

It is added—

"In looks, get-up, matter and manner, the 'National Guardian' will be entirely a novel, interesting, and attractive production of the time. It will be original in every item, from beginning to end."

With such a preliminary shout of trumpets, that may easily be believed. We only hope the laudable desire for originality will not be carried to a vengeful *Zid* to the news department, and that due supervision will be exercised over the "young lions" (before whom those of the *Daily Telegraph* immortalised by Mathew Arnold will doubtless shrink back to their genuine character of miserable jackallings) who will doubtless be employed on the staff, so as not to allow them to serve facts all their own. In this respect, at any rate, there ought to be no aspiring to compete with the masters of the sensational school of America and the European Continent.

The parents of such an expected prodigy naturally do not care to stand on any ceremony with the world. They have no respect to spare for the old fogeys of the Press. For "leading" in every existing shape they openly profess supreme contempt. Thus,

"The 'National Guardian' will keep clear of the hackneyed track of the Editorial leader-writer."

Instead, it "will give to its readers:—

"(1) The news of the week, from all parts of the world, in as concise and readable a form as possible, every item being dressed up in a tincture of humour, pathos or satire, as necessary, by clever writers trained in the art."

A Normal School of Belles Lettres will apparently be founded in connection with the new avatar, for training literary men in the art of writing, as also extensive Chemical Works for the manufacture of alcoholic tinctures of humour, pathos, &c., to be stored for use as required, care being taken that the pathos does not degenerate into the other thing by the action of Grimm's famous law. Then, it will give—

"(2) Brief and pointed comments in a bright and readable manner on all important and striking topics by the ablest writers of the country, European as well as Native."

That is rather disappointing. Will it be a "country" affair after all? What! are there any "able writers" in the country at all? We thought everything was to be imported, like the steam machine—everything of the best *Belati* and *Markin*. At all events, the "ablest writers" cannot be connected with the Indian press, unless it is to be supposed they are all in conspiracy to abandon their concerns and join the new "Guardian."

Again—

"(3) Interesting News-letters from London, Paris, New York and other European and American Centres, by specially retained correspondents."

And again—

"(4) Original stories, anecdotes from real life, poetry, reviews, and living sketches based on incidents of Indian and other history."

Once more—

"(5) Society talk, gup, gossip, wit and humour."

And again—

"(6) Interviews on living subjects with prominent men both at home and abroad through the agency of first-class reporters."

Nor is that the last. For, we are promised—

"(7) Large-sized colored Litho. Pictures of interesting persons and events, of the finest design and execution."

By Heaven and Earth! but this is—pro—di—gious! We are, however, permitted to take breath.

"The politics of the 'National Guardian' will be liberal, outspoken, impartial and loyal."

That is a matter of course. But then,

"It will not flatter, it will not whine, it will not abuse, it will not threaten."

Above all—

"Sobriety, dignity and truth will be always observed in its discussion of public affairs."

And now for the size and complexion of the giant—

"The 'National Guardian' will be printed in six forms *demy*, on good white paper."

"Both in appearance and reality it will be a veritable mirror of the world and its doings from week to week."

That is a kick in passing at our neighbour who daily appears *Veluti in Speculum*.

"Its objects will be to please the eye, instruct and amuse the mind ennoble the heart, and lend life to the most deadened soul. It will enlarge the reader's vision and give purpose to his thought."

"It will be a friend of the people, an adviser of the Government, and an agreeable companion to all."

That is, it will be every thing in abundance, but everything *At*. In fine, it will be a Prodigy of Voluminous Perfection from the hands of weak bungling man. And all for less than a song! For the prospectus shows that the Rs. 4 or Rs. 2 in advance asked will be virtually paid back with interest long before the term of subscription is completed. All the same it will go down. There is genius in the project.

### THE NIZAM'S GIFT.

The liberal gift of £600,000 just made by the Nizam in aid of the expenditure on frontier defence, was probably suggested to him by the British officer who is now his private secretary, and who is rapidly rising to a position indistinguishable from that which Prince Albert once held in British politics. The suggestion, however, must have been acceptable to the Nizam, who is in no way bound to take Colonel Marshall's advice, and it will, we hope, help to disabuse the English public of one prevalent superstition, for which, as we believe, there is absolutely no foundation,—the belief, namely, that the "Indian Princes" are likely to intrigue with Russia, for the invasion of our dominions. Why on earth should they do anything so stupid? They have nothing to fear from Russia, as the Sultan has, and the Shah has; and what have they to hope? They do not love the British Government, it is true, for Asiatics rarely love Europeans, and Englishmen annoy Asiatics of position by a thousand failures in respect; but they like it quite as well as any possible successor, and a great deal better than any successor coming from abroad. The majority of them are exceedingly well off under the shadow of the Throne. They lose, it is true, under its sway the right of making war at discretion, which is galling to energetic Princes; but they receive in return advantages which they thoroughly appreciate,—viz., complete exemption from the danger of external attack, which was formerly never absent; and a guarantee, almost too perfect to be defensible, against insurrection from below, formerly so frequent that the normal condition of most Indian States was one of chronic civil war. More than half the Indian Princes represent usurpers. It may not be pleasant to the Indian Prince to be afraid of Lord Dufferin, who never thinks about him; but it is most comfortable not to be afraid of the Great Mogul, who was always asking money; or of his own army, which, till the British

arrived, had the throne in its hands; or of his own Barons, most of whom, except in one or two Hindoo cases where the Sovereign's pedigree places him above rivalry, acknowledge no right to reign except the power of reigning. The Princes as a body are not plundered—witness Scindiah's amazing but not singular hoards—they are not humiliated, for with rare exceptions, like Oodeypore, Jeypore, and Travancore, Indian States are of yesterday; and they are exceedingly little interfered with. The Resident, who is supposed here to be always checking, no more checks administration in Hyderabad than Bismarck does in Bavaria. The Nizam is as absolute within his own dominions as any European Monarch of the Middle Ages. The Prince must not, it is true, be a Caligula; he must not tax his subjects to the skin—though he may go wonderfully near it, and in some States, notably Cashmere, he does—and he must not affront openly the general body of religious sentiment among his subjects, lest he should cause a popular explosion. For the rest, however, he may govern as arbitrarily as Henry VIII., if he will only govern as successfully, may spend or hoard at his own discretion, and may raise up or put down those he favours or hates, as independently as Haroun Alraschid ever did. One Prince, still living, took a fancy to a girl imprisoned for child-murder or some such offence, made her his Queen by sovereign order, and left the reigns of the State mainly in her hands; and the British Government never interfered with a whim which turned out, as it happened, the salvation of a province and a people. What could a Russian Czar do that would attract Princes in such a situation? Just as little as an Emperor of Delhi; and it was because they dreaded the rise of an Emperor of Delhi, and their own obliteration, that the greater Indian feudatories during the Mutiny adhered to the British Government, in the face, in many instances, of pronounced popular disapproval. Indeed, the Czar would be worse than the Great Mogul, for he would be more powerful, more grasping and more inclined to interfere with the religious freedom of his subjects. The Princes know the facts around them well enough, and know that the British Government, though "opinionated" on the question of successions, and sometimes illiberal about money, does not care one straw what religion its subjects profess, or if they profess none. Hindoos are by no means so sure in that respect of the head of the Orthodox Church, while Mussulmans are quite sure that between them and the Russians there flows a river of blood.

The Princes of India, if they ever rise against British ascendancy—and they are not half so likely to rise as the peasantry, ruined by our prejudice in favour of paying your debts—will rise for themselves, and not for Russia; and so long as they remain faithful, they and their armies are politically sources of safety to the British dominion. The Indian thrones break the rush of that awful peasant democracy of two hundred millions which, without them, would be the only force left in India except the white army. Their States offer carcasses to the Indians ambitious of military distinction, or sick of the limited and much supervised authority which we mock with the name of power. In their dominions, the competent can still rise without being examined as to their knowledge of equations, and a man can still command regiments because, though, like Hyder, he cannot write, he can put down his master's foes. They keep up in the vast peninsula the military virtues, which otherwise threaten to die out altogether, and they leave some hope to the born statesmen, who otherwise would see none except in overthrowing the British flag. Our shadow falls as it is with fearful weight upon men like Dinkur Rao. Above all, the Native States perform for us, by keeping armies, the inestimable service of giving discontent a military direction. Our rebels in India descend into the field, where they can be crushed, and where, when crushed, they stay so, instead of keeping up for generations a smouldering war to which we must in the end succumb. What would we give if rebellious Ireland could put fifty thousand drilled soldiers in the field? If we are ever turned out of India, it will be when her inhabitants, having unlearned the trade of war, and being governed by agitators instead of Princes, provoked by some decree which we think philanthropic and they think impious, display their marvellous patience and contempt for personal suffering in some universal act of passive resistance. They have only to decline to pay taxes, and the British Empire in India, the most anomalous and the most wonderful political structure ever reared by the hand of man, will have disappeared, to be recollected only as an inexplicable though momentary phenomenon in Asiatic history. The Princes help to postpone that outburst, which may not arrive for centuries, if only we will do our work; and to quarrel with them for keeping armies is evidence only of short-sightedness. Their armies, while they are faithful, are useful auxiliaries; and when they are unfaithful, are merely armed and disciplined invaders, whose career will end on the first day the British garrison faces them in strength. In no case will they join Russia, who, if she came at all, would come crashing down into the secluded peninsula, followed by soldiers of fortune from every tribe in Northern Asia, from the Caucasus to Vladivostock. The Princes of India do not want the Russians, any more than the people do; and if they are but wisely managed, they can give us real assistance in a defence which, until the Czar strikes Persia to the ground, will be rather a soldier's nightmare than a pressing necessity of Indian politics. The

Indian peoples still take foreign policy from the Indian Princes, and while the latter dread a Russian victory, the rear of the frontier will remain safe and well supplied.—*The Spectator*, Oct. 1, 1887.

### MONGHYR.

*Jamulpore, October 15, 1887.*

I regret to inform your readers that Mr. Harschel Dear, the old and wealthy resident of Monghyr, commonly known to be the Rothschild of the place, breathed his last the other day, leaving a large estate. He went up to Mussoorie, as he usually does every summer, and was about to return to his dear and beloved home Monghyr, when a sudden attack of paralysis came on him, on the 9th instant, which carried him off at 76th year of his age. It would not be an exaggeration were I to say, that his name is a household word in Monghyr, and although he is not in the land of living now, his general hospitality and philanthropic work of public utility such as "Dear Hospital," "Clock Tower" in Monghyr, and similar works will outlive him and he will always be held in remembrance by almost all Monghyr. His loss is mourned by a large circle of his friends and relatives. He had no male issue. It has not yet transpired how his estate has been disposed of.

The uncertainty which had prevailed as to who was to succeed Sir Bradford Leslie, the Ex-Agent of E. I. Railway Company, has been set at rest by the Home Board, who confirmed Mr. D. W. Campbell, C. I. E., Acting Agent, in the post, notwithstanding that such names, as Colonel Luard, Sir Theodore Hope, Colonel Staunton, and some others were mentioned as probable successor to Sir B. Leslie. Mr. J. Strachan, Officiating Loco: Superintendent, will likewise, I believe, be confirmed, being senior hand in the Department, as Locomotive Superintendent of E. I. Railway. There has been a very slight improvement both in coaching and goods traffic. The Traffic and Locomotive Departments have not been unmindful of devising means with a view to reduce the working expenses as low as practicable. I understand some Guards, Mechanics &c., have already been sent away on compulsory leave without pay for some time.

The Police as a rule are notorious for their high-handedness everywhere. I hear a chowkidar of this place was challaned to the sudder station, Monghyr, for trial, the other day, for neglect of work in his night duty, but he was let off with fine, on conviction. Meanwhile, the delinquent deposed saying that not only he, but that several others of his grade, viz., Head constables and Jamadars attached to outposts likewise do their work in a most perfunctory and reckless way; this having been proved, the men have been severely taken to task departmentally, some by suspension, others by degradation and reduction of pay. This is as it should be, and will be the means of bringing the police to their senses.

The climate of this place as well as of Monghyr, has become of late unfavorable, and there has been a great prevalence of fever. The fever appears to be of a virulent type. What pained us to see and hear, is that both Monghyr and Jamulpur, so to speak, are gradually losing their claim to salubrity—which a few years back were noted as favorite resorts for those in search of health and in fact regular sanatoria.

## Public Paper.

### THE SIR JOHN LAWRENCE ENQUIRY.

To His Honor The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

1. By your Honor's order, a Court of inquiry was held, as to the loss of the S. S. *Sir John Lawrence*, and it was doubtless your Honor's intention, that no effort should be spared to arrive at the truth. Therefore, I humbly venture to call to your notice, how that long tedious inquiry was rendered, in a great measure, abortive.

2. There were twelve witnesses pointed out by me, yet only five were allowed to appear. Three of these were men who were discharged from the interested firm, who were agents for the Steamer, and since this inquiry was mooted, they were handsomely re-employed. The fourth was a Chief Engineer, Mr. Leech, who was threatened with an evil turn, if he would not swear the dangerous patch on the vessel's bow was in the fore-castle, instead of its real position below the water line. Mr. Leech refused to become a party to the falsehood as he was a whole day in the forepeak, cutting off the jagged edges. Since he gave this evidence he has been dismissed from the Government Dockyard. The fifth and last was a harbour master, who laboured under the fear of censure from his superiors of the Port Commission. Yet he clearly stated that the chain, which MacKellar said he surveyed and passed, had a hundred fathoms buried in the chain locker, which could not be got up, as the starboard side of the windlass would not work.

3. The only men who dared to hint, even mildly, at the real state of the vessel and its manner of trade, were cruelly bullied, with a painful and, in many instances, a totally irrelevant cross-examination by the counsel of Mr. Mackenzie, an interested witness, who was present in the Court throughout. Some twenty people were brought from far and near who were eloquent in the praise of the vessel. All

these men were patiently heard, allowed any latitude of relevance, and ably reminded with leaders from favourable counsel, of any thing they had forgotten. Their evidence was not submitted to cross-examination, even when the most glaring falsehood was palpable, as in the case of the Police-counting and MacKellar's survey of a cable which was buried under a hundred fathoms in the chain locker, until days after the survey was completed.

4. Nearly all the favourable evidence was published as facts, while a very large part of that which was likely to prove the real state of the vessel, was suppressed. It was admitted by the Court that the plates in the neighbourhood of the patch were below the standard of safety. Yet most of the witnesses, who would have proved, beyond a doubt, that the hole was below the deep load line, were not allowed to be called.

5. Mr. Mitchell, the Chief Builder of the Government Dockyard, condemned the vessel, about the year 1882, as totally unfit for a passenger vessel. That gentleman, unlike Mr. Bushby, has the records of the borings made on which he condemned her. This gentleman should have been called as well as the two last Chief Officers, who knew all about the vessel, and had been in her for months. The evidence which has been credited, is that of interested people, who were on board an hour or two at most, and that at very long intervals.

6. The Steamer *Indore*, that made the hole in the bow of the *Lawrence*, was in the port, and an half an hour's inspection, as to the position of her anchor would have clearly proved the distance of the hole from the water, in corroboration of that. I enclose a letter from one of the witnesses they would not call, one well acquainted with the damage done to both vessels. But his evidence like that of all the others suppressed, was of the greatest importance.

7. Of the assisting gentlemen who composed the Court, the one represented a large shipping interest and the other was connected with surveying—whose sympathies were doubtless entirely local, and had it not been for the courtesy of Mr. Reily, the President of the Court, the few facts that have leaked out, would have never been known.

8. It could hardly be expected that I, totally unassisted and thwarted in every way, and only allowed to have five witnesses, and those doubtless selected by the most interested people, could hope for a moment to impress a Court so constituted favourably; when on the other side some twenty people were brought, all ably backed by all the legal skill that affluence could bring, in order to depreciate that evidence which they dared not and did not openly dispute, while the vessel was afloat as a palpable witness to prove it.

9. An hour on board with me, would have saved this long inquiry and perhaps the lives of some hundreds now deceased.

10. I had hoped until this morning when I saw your Honor's decision, that you would have insisted on finding out where that dangerous patch really was, and also that the men who have been kept back, should be called. Yet considering the mass of evidence allowed on the one side, with all its legal support and the very few allowed to be heard on the other, no one can be surprised at the decision of the Court.

11. I humbly apologise for this trespass on your valuable time, but cannot help adding that had the witnesses been allowed that were asked for, there would have been a very different finding, and this inquiry would then have led to great and much-needed reform.

I have the honor to be,

Your Honor's most obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. NEUSTEIN.

Hotel de Vienna, Calcutta, October 8, 1887.

#### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 19th October 1887.—The undermentioned officers have been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India extensions of furlough for the periods noted against their names:

Mr. A. Earle, c.s. ... Six months on sick certificate.

„ J. G. Charles, c.s. ... Eleven months.

The 20th October 1887.—Mr. F. E. Piffard, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajmchal, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is transferred to Jamtara in this district.

Mr. F. J. Monahan, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jamtara, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Rajmchal sub-division of that district, *vice* Mr. T. Inglis, on deputation.

The 21st October 1887.—Baboo Nitya Nanda Bhar, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Burdwan, held charge of the Rancegunge sub-division of that district from the afternoon of the 16th to the afternoon of the 20th October 1887.

Baboo Mohendra Nath Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhubooah, Shahabad, is transferred to Manbhoom, and is appointed to have charge of the Govindpore sub-division of that district.

Mr. J. R. Hand, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Shahabad, on leave, is appointed to have charge of the Bhubooah sub-division of that district.

The 22nd October 1887.—The services of Mr. H. R. H. Cox, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, on leave, are placed at the disposal of the Government of India, in the Home Department.

The services of Mr. R. H. Greaves, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, are placed at the disposal of the Government of India, in the Home Department.

Baboo Hurry Mohun Chandra, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division, is allowed leave for six months, under section 128, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Lolit Chandra Neogy is appointed to act as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, and as Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Hurry Mohun Chandra, or until further orders.

The 24th October 1887.—Baboo Pran Kissen Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore, was in temporary charge of the Bhuddruck sub-division of that district from the 10th to the 30th September 1887, both days inclusive.

Mr. F. H. B. Skrine, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Beerbhoom, is allowed leave for twenty-four days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he may be relieved.

Mr. S. S. Jones, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Beerbhoom, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. F. H. B. Skrine, or until further orders.

The 25th October 1887.—Baboo Basanta Krishna Bose, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Silligoree, Darjeeling, is allowed leave for two months and sixteen days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved by Moulvie Fuzlul Karim.

Baboo Baroda Das Bose, Sub-Deputy Collector, Palamow, Lohardugga, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he was relieved at Howrah.

JUDICIAL.—The 20th October 1887.—Baboo Gopal Chandra Bose, Munsif of Buxar, in Shahabad, is appointed to act temporarily as Subordinate Judge and Small Cause Court Judge of Bhagulpore, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Poresh Nath Banerjee, or until further orders.

Baboo Mohini Mohan Dutt, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Shahabad, to be ordinarily stationed at Buxar, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Gopal Chandra Bose, or until further orders.

Baboo Brojo Behari Shome, Additional Munsif of Scaldah, in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, is vested with the powers conferred on District Judges by sections 344 to 359 (both inclusive) of the Code of Civil Procedure, in cases where the debts owing by the insolvents do not exceed Rs. 1,000.

The 21st October 1887.—Baboo Chandi Das Ghose, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tumlook, Midnapore, is vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Baboo Danda Dhari Biswas, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Patna, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sudder station, during the absence, on leave, of Moulvie Mahomed Noorul Hossein, or until further orders.

The 25th October 1887.—Baboo Annoda Prosad Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jamui, Monghyr, is vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Baboo Advaita Prosad De is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Tipperah, to be ordinarily stationed at Ramroygram, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Purno Chandra Mitra, or until further orders.

### HOLLOWAY'S PILLS & OINTMENT

#### THE PILLS

Purify the Blood, correct all Disorders of the

**LIVER, STOMACH, KIDNEYS AND BOWELS;**

They invigorate and restore to health Debilitated Constitutions, and are invaluable in all Complaints incidental to Females of all ages.

For children and the aged they are priceless.

#### THE OINTMENT

Is an infallible remedy for Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Old Wounds, Sores and Ulcers. It is famous for Gout and Rheumatism. For disorders of the Chest it has no equal.

**For Sore Throats, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds,**

Glandular Swellings and all Skin Diseases, it has no rival; and for contracted and stiff joints it acts like a charm.

Manufactured only at Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishment

**OXFORD STREET (late 533, Oxford St.,) LONDON.**



**GREAT EASTERN HOTEL CO.,**

LIMITED, CALCUTTA.

The Company have received a further supply of the following:—

**Gladstone Bags.**

In black or brown hide, made specially strong and very durable.

**Brown Hide.**

Size 20-inches, Cash Rs. 18, 22-inches, Rs. 20.

**Black Hide.**

Size 20-inches, Cash Rs. 17, 22-inches, Rs. 19.

**Soiled Linen Bags.**

WHITE CANVAS, with frame lock, and key, Rs. 5, 5-8, and 6.

The "SACK" shape Brown Canvas Waterproof, with patent brass fastening and padlock. Cash Rs. 7-4.

Brown Hemp Waterproof, with frame, lock and key, Rs. 8, 9, and 10.

**"The Walseley Pack."**

Made in Waterproof material, has two large pockets (which divide like a Pack Saddle) for clothing and other necessities. Also a small Pocket for Time Tables, &c., with straps to secure sticks and umbrellas. Rs. 23 and 25 cash.

**Jones' Steel Trunks.**

The "BESSEMER," made of best steel, with strong Iron Corner plates, and strengthening straps, fitted with patent lock and duplicate keys.

Size 18-inches	...	Cash Rs. 10 0
" 21-inches	...	" 11 4
" 24-inches	...	" 13 0
" 27-inches	...	" 17 0
" 30-inches	...	" 19 0

The "BESSEMER" same as above, but fitted with tray, at slightly increased prices.

**Steel Berth and Railway Trunks.**

Will go under the seat of a Railway Carriage or Steamer's berth.

Sizes 24 by 13 by 9-in.	...	Cash Rs. 9 0
" 27 by 15½ by 9-in.	...	" 10 4
" 30 by 17½ by 11-in.	...	" 12 8
" 32 by 20 by 13-in.	...	" 15 0

Also a variety of other patterns of Steel Trunks just to hand, viz:—

THE MALABAR TRUNK.

THE MADRAS TRUNK.

THE P. AND O. BERTH TRUNK.

REGISTERED TRAVELLING TRUNK.

TRUNKS AND PORTMANTEAUS.

The Regulation Overland Trunk.

**A. Quality.**

Is made very light and strong; and while especially adapted and made for the Overland route to and from India, &c., may be used as an ordinary Portmanteau or Ladies' Trunk. Suitable for both ladies and gentlemen.

Size 27-in.	...	Cash Rs. 20 0
" 30-in.	...	" 21 0
" 33-in.	...	" 23 0
" 36-in.	...	" 25 0

**B. Quality.**

STRONGER THAN ABOVE.

Size 27-in.	...	Cash Rs. 25 0
" 30-in.	...	" 29 0
" 33-in.	...	" 31 0
" 36-in.	...	" 35 0

**C. Quality.**

EXTRA STRONGLY MADE.

Size 27-in.	...	Cash Rs. 32 8
" 30-in.	...	" 35 0
" 33-in.	...	" 40 8
" 36-in.	...	" 42 0

**Portmanteaus.**

SOUTHGATE'S SOLID LEATHER PORTMANTEAUS, 27, 30, 33, and 36 inches, in various styles, Rs. 45 to Rs. 70.

**State Cabin Trunks.**

American Pattern Trunks, very strongly made suitable for Ladies' use. 32 inches, Rs. 25; 34 inches, Rs. 27-0.

**Waterproof Holdalls.**

Strongly made of Brown Waterproof Canvas, will hold Bedding, Clothing, &c., and rolls up into a convenient bundle, with strong straps.

44 by 27 inches	Cash Rs. 14 0
48 by 30	" 15 0
54 by 30	" 16 0
54 by 36	" 19 0
60 by 36	" 21 0

**Luggage Straps.**

Strong Single Leather Straps, 1¼ inch wide, 72 inches long, Rs. 2; 84 inches, Rs. 24.

Double Straps, with handle, for bedding and luggage, 48 inches long, Rs. 2-8; 54 inches Rs. 3-6; 60 inches, Rs. 4-8.

Smaller sizes from As. 12 to Re. 1-8.

**Luggage Labels.**

Strong Labels, with tags to tie on, per packets of 1 dozen, As. 8; Leather Label-holder, As. 12.

**HALL OF ALL NATIONS,**  
CALCUTTA.

**NOTICE.**

Estate of His late Majesty Wajid Ali Shah, King of Oudh, deceased.

All persons having claims against the above Estate are required to submit them to the undersigned within a period of two months from this date, after which no claims whatever will be entertained.

Persons indebted to the Estate are also required to pay the sums due by them to the undersigned forthwith.

By order of the Governor-General in Council,  
W. F. PRIDEAUX, Lt.-Colonel,  
Agent to the Governor-General in Council,  
Under Act No. XIX of 1887.

8, Sudder Street,  
Calcutta.  
24th. October, 1887.

**WANTED:—**A Contractor for cutting Coal—one that can bring 100 or 150 men. Terms can be ascertained from the undersigned.

JOHN E. TYERS,  
Actg. Agent and Manager,  
Nerbudda Coal & Iron Co. Ltd.,  
Mohpain Mines, Gadawara, C. P.

**HAMILTON, & CO.'S****Latest Designs in Gold Bangles.**

The Acron Bang'e, (England)	...	Rs. 60
The Thistle Bangle, (Scotland)	...	" 60
The Shamrock Bangle, (Ireland)	...	" 60
The Lotus Bangle, (India)	...	" 60
The Forget-me-not Bangle	...	" 63
The Indian Bamboo Bangle	...	" 32
The Victoria Bangle	...	" 100
The Cleopatra Signet Bangle	...	" 54
The Magic Twist Bangle	...	" 185
The Flexible Curb Bangle	...	" 115
The Etruscan Ball Bangle	...	" 32
The Good Luck Bangle	...	" 54
The Oriental Onyx Bangle	...	" 90
The Flexible Gold and Platinum Bangle	...	" 100
The "Mascotte" Diamond H'shoe Bangle	...	" 90
The Scotch Plaid Bangle	...	" 80

The above are cash quotations.

Inspection Invited.

**HAMILTON & CO.,**

CALCUTTA.

**INDIAN LABORATORY.****HOUSEHOLD NON-SECRET MEDICINES.**

Nim Oil No. 1.—For internal use.

Nim Oil No. 2. } For external use.  
Nim Ointment. }

Dr. Brandis says—"The oil is used medicinally, as an antiseptic and anthelmintic." Dr. Maxwell has found it "as efficacious as Cod Liver Oil in cases of consumption and scrofula." Sir W. O'Shaughnessy says—"The oil is thought anthelmintic and is applied externally to foul ulcers and used as a liniment in rheumatic and spasmodic affections and in headaches from exposure in the sun." Dr. Dymock says—"The oil is applied to suppurating glands, is given in leprosy and in a variety of diseases." If applied to sores in horses and other domestic animals, it keeps off flies and thereby promotes healing. The oil is a sovereign remedy for BARSATEE SORES, mange and itches and all foul sores in horses and cattle. Nighanta Ratnakar, a Sanskrit Medical Encyclopædia, thus speaks of the medicinal virtues of the Nim Oil—"It is bitter, destroyer of worms, cures leprosy, abscesses and ulcers and diseases of impure blood, chronic fever and piles."

No. 1. Re. 1; No. 2. Re. 1 (larger phial); ointment, As. 12.

**SALEP MISREE POWDER.**

The grand specific for nervous debility and weakness of reproductive functions. Professor Royle states—"Salep misree is in truth one of the best articles of diet, a convalescent can use." Re. 1.

Directions for use and particulars regarding composition, accompany each medicine.

Out-station orders are promptly executed on prepayment, or by V. P. P. Post or by Railway parcel. Packing charge for each two annas. Postage extra.

Full price list to be had on application.

**BANERJI & SONS,**

Proprietors, Indian Laboratory,  
87, TRIPOLIA, ALLAHABAD.

N. B.—See Reis & Rayyet of 26th February and 5th March 1887, for full advertisement.

# BEETHAM'S

## GLYCERINE - AND - CUCUMBER

For INDIA and all HOT CLIMATES this sweetly scented emollient Milk is **INVALUABLE**. IT KEEPS the SKIN COOL and REFRESHED in the HOTTEST WEATHER. Removes and prevents all SUNBURN, REDNESS, FRECKLES, TAN, etc., and **RENDERS the SKIN DELICATELY SOFT, SMOOTH and WHITE.**

It entirely prevents it from becoming DRY and WRINKLED, and PRESERVES the COMPLEXION from the scorching effects of the SUN and WIND more effectually than any other preparation. The IRRITATION caused by the BITES and STINGS of INSECTS is wonderfully allayed by its use. For imparting that soft velvety feeling to the skin, this delightful preparation has no equal! Sold by all Chemists.

Sole Makers **M. BEETHAM & SON, Chemists, Cheltenham, England.**

CALCUTTA AGENTS: SCOTT, THOMPSON & CO.

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1887.

No. 296

## News & Comments.

ACCORDING to the *United Ireland* :—

"Mr. Dickens, an American tourist, a few days ago, when visiting near Killarney, fired a shot from a revolver to try the effect of the echo in the gap of Dunloe. Immediately after the report, as though it had been a summons from Aladdin's lamp, two genii in the shape of policemen appeared and in spite of explanations, Mr. Dickens was arrested, and after three hours' detention sent off under escort to Killarney. After a further delay of two hours he was taken before a magistrate, who discharged him, being satisfied that he had his revolver for no illegal purpose."

Life in Ireland is fast coming down to the Indian level. There, as here, thanks to the Arms Act, you cannot wake the genius of solitude without liability to capture by the Police. Luckily for the Irish, there are no tigers or bears in their country—except in the shape of politicians or ecclesiastics.

THE *Scottish News* has it :—

"As regards what is generally termed 'Go-aheadism' we must undoubtedly yield the palm to our Yankee cousins; but there are examples of this disposition which we trust never to see imitated in Britain. One of these is found in the account of President Cleveland's reception at the close of the Centennial celebrations in Philadelphia. One of the ladies presented to the temporary ruler of the State, not content with the ordinary salutation, 'threw her arms round the President's neck and kissed him.' It is not stated whether the example proved contagious among the other ladies present, but the precedent is alarming. While any man, peasant or peer, might be pleased to be kissed by youthful and charming admirers of the fairer sex, the prospect of submitting to osculation from those who were advanced in years, and who had lost the beauty of youth, is alarming enough. Whether Mrs. Cleveland takes kindly to this latest form of Republican simplicity is not yet known; but if she be cast in the mould of ordinary wives, it would be safe to predict that her much-admired husband received a curtain lecture on Sunday, in comparison with which those of Mrs. Caudle were mildly remonstrative."

\*So kissing is not the harmless game that some of our European teachers tell us it is.

WE lately mentioned a new illuminator. The following particulars appear in the *Indian Planter's Gazette* :—

"Through the medium of the clever brain of a Mr. Hannay there has lately burst upon the world a light called 'lucigen,' that is said to be from one-tenth to one-twelfth the cost of ordinary gas and one-twentieth that of electric light of the same actual candle power. For one shilling and threepence an hour a light can be given that will illuminate a distance of half a square mile. All who have seen it declare that it is the nearest approach to daylight of anything yet invented, and in the recent trials of it, at the Crystal Palace, quite small print was legible at a distance of three hundred yards. It seems to have a marvellous power of spreading itself, and will surely be invaluable for lighthouses, beacons, and signals, wherever placed, whilst its price will bring it within the limit of those who could not afford gas."

There is a suspicion of advertising in the account, but if half of it be true a comforting discovery has been made.

"MATILDA" of Guntakal Junction writes to the *Madras Standard* :—

"The residents of this place have addressed a letter to the *Madras Mail* anent sale of postage stamps, &c., which I sincerely hope will not only appear in print, but also catch the eye of the Postmaster General, and some mitigation of our sufferings be brought about. You will naturally ask 'Who are the sufferers?' Let me say, certainly not the men, but we poor women, who have to send our servants away some three miles to purchase stamps, &c., and the dreadful delay and inconvenience felt at home is truly something shameful. Away goes the servant for stamps, in comes our lord and master bawling out most lustily for breakfast, this not being ready by the time, that dreadful

'buz' goes for work. Why a cyclone in the Bay of Bengal is simply a fool to the tempest in a teapot at home. The servant away for stamps, children brawling, ayahs running about to escape the infuriated bull waiting for his breakfast. The house is simply upside down. How can this be remedied? Why simply by the Postmaster General (who I trust is a married man, and perhaps has often felt the want of a breakfast) ordering that saucy of all saucy post peons bringing stamps, &c., for sale."

That is Matilda, and no mistake, as we could swear by our 33 crores of divinities if we were profanely disposed! There is the genuine note of femininity in that letter—true woman's reasons. The administrative suggestion to send out postage stamps of all kinds with postal messengers for the benefit of chance buyers, is characteristic. Above all, the picture of the infuriated bull waiting for his breakfast, is above all praise. It is a master-piece of realism such as only the "better half" could accomplish.

THE *Mahratta* is one of our ablest papers. It has written the best article of all on the principal topic of the day—the Nizam's offer. All the more vexed are we to see it use such a horrid word as "donate." And then to think of the prospect of the introduction of "orate," "ovate," and the rest of the Transatlantic barbarisms!—no, for 'Tukaramji forbear!

HERE is the confession of an English (Southwark) burglar—Timothy Kelley, 31, labourer :—

"I broke into Nochmer's a fortnight ago—it was on Sunday morning—and took coats, boots, and umbrellas, and the same night I broke into Dudin's and got all I could. I got into these two places twice. I took off the skylight at Nochmer's place about ten weeks ago. I also got into Reed and Sons' office, Mill-street, Dockhead, and stole 87. 19s. 9d. out of the safe. I broke open the top of it with a 56lb. weight. About nine weeks ago I broke into Dartell's office, Shad Thames, but I did not get much there. I pawned most of the clothes over at Paddington, such as trousers, vests, and jackets. I pawned a new pair of shoes in a narrow street near Paddington Railway Station, they were valued at 16s. I pawned one of the overcoats I got at Dudin's place at the Jews in the Borough. I also left a file at Dudin's place the first time I broke in there, and the next time I got in I found the file in the same place where I left it. My intention was to get into Fisher's office the morning you stopped me. If you had been five minutes later you might have found me inside. I did not know you were watching me, and I intended to get in through the window, as I had been twice at it and I meant to do the job this time."

What truth in the narration! What simplicity in the man! There is a charming proportion in his story which persuades one in his favors. He neither swaggers nor whines, neither makes himself out as a hero nor tries to palliate his crimes. He is an enemy of society by profession and shows a respect for his vocation. Altogether, he is as respectable a blackguard as any in the higher ranks of life.

HERE is woman militant—*Sakti* in arms :—

"Six thousand women employed at a tobacco manufactory here (Madrid) are setting the authorities at defiance. They have barricaded the doors and refused to leave the building, though summoned to do so by the Governor of Madrid backed by a strong force of gendarmes, who have occupied the adjacent streets in the populous suburb where the relations of the women are greatly excited. This feminine demonstration is owing to the grievances of the women against the new company—the farmers of the tobacco monopoly since July. It is expected that hunger will force the besieged to capitulate, most being mothers of families or young girls."—*London Daily News*.

A MOSCOW telegram of the 4th October says—

"A serious riot has occurred among the workmen employed at a large cotton mill, near Klin. A whole regiment from this city has

consequently been sent to the scene of the disturbance, to quell the outbreak. It is reported that many people have been killed in the disturbances, the origin of which is as yet unknown."

REGULATIONS respecting the examination for the Civil Service of India, to be held in June 1888, are reproduced in the *Calcutta Gazette* of this week—2nd November.

We give below the dates of the several Examinations of the Calcutta University for the year 1888.

Entrance, F. A. and B. A. examinations on Monday, the 5th March, and following days.

M. A. and Prem Chand Roy Chand examinations, on Monday, the 12th November, and following days.

B. L., Honours in Law and L.M.S. examinations, on Monday, the 19th March and following days.

M. B. and M. D. examinations, on Monday, the 21st May, and following days.

F. E. examination on Monday, the 7th May, and following days.

L. E. and B. E. examinations on Monday, the 2nd July, and following days.

Applications for admission must be filed for the

Entrance, F. A., and B. A., examinations on or before 21st January.

M. A.—12th August.

Prem Chand Roy Chand—12th May.

B. L. and Honors in Law—18th February.

L. M. S.—5th March.

M. B.—7th May.

M. D.—21st April.

F. E.—23rd April.

L. E. and B. E.—17th June.

Candidates from the same institution are required to appear at one and the same place of examination.

We make the above announcement *gratis* and hope to deserve the thanks of the Registrar.

THE Viceroy left Simla on Thursday morning for the autumn tour. The Volunteers formed the guard of Honor at the Viceregal Lodge and the Gurkhas at the Chaura Maidan. The programme of the tour has been amended, the dates being as follow :—

Novr. 3rd, Thursday... Leave Simla at 8-30 A. M., and arrive at Umballa at 7-30 P. M.

" 4th, Friday ... Leave Umballa Cantonment at 7 A. M. and arrive at Kartarpur at 12-54 P. M. visit Kapurthalla State.

" 5th, Saturday }  
" 6th, Sunday } Halt at Kapurthalla.  
" 7th, Monday }  
" 8th, Tuesday }

" 9th, Wednesday Leave Kartarpur at 4-45 A. M. and arrive at Khanewal at 7-15 P. M., leave Khanewal 8-15 P. M.

" 10th, Thursday ... Arrive at Rohri Bunder at 9 A. M., leave Sukkur Bunder at 4-15 P. M., and arrive at Naundero at 6-15 P. M.

" 11th, Friday ... Leave Naundero 1-5 A. M. and arrive at Kurrachee at 4-30 P. M.

" 12th, Saturday }  
" 13th, Sunday } Halt at Kurrachee.  
" 14th, Monday }  
" 15th, Tuesday }

" 16th, Wednesday Leave Kurrachee at 5 P. M.

" 17th, Thursday ... Arrive at Sukkur Bunder at 10 A. M. and leave Rohri Bandar at 4-15 P. M.

" 18th, Friday ... Arrive at Dera Ghazi Khan at about 5-20 P. M.

" 19th, Saturday ... Halt at Dera Ghazi Khan.

" 20th, Sunday ... Leave Dera Ghazi Khan at 7-45 A. M., and arrive at Dera Ismail Khan at about 6-30 P. M.

" 21st Monday ... Return to Darya Khan.

" 22nd Tuesday ... Leave Darya Khan at 6 A. M., and arrive at Khewra at 6 P. M.

" 23rd Wednesday Leave Khewra at 1-45 P. M., and arrive at Deena at 8 P. M.

" 24th Thursday ... Leave Deena at 6 A. M. and arrive at Peshawar at 5 P. M.

" 25th Friday }  
" 26th Saturday } Halt at Peshawar.  
" 27th Sunday }

" 28th Monday ... Leave Peshawar at 9-30 A. M., and arrive at Kohat at 5 P. M.

" 29th Tuesday ... Halt at Kohat.

" 30th Wednesday Leave Kohat at 9 A. M., and arrive at Rawal Pindi at 5-30 P. M.

Decr. 1st Thursday } Halt at Rawal Pindi.  
" 2nd Friday }

" 3rd Saturday ... Leave Rawal Pindi at 7 A. M., and arrive at Lahore at 5-20 P. M.

" 4th Sunday }  
" 5th Monday } Halt at Lahore.  
" 6th Tuesday }

" 7th Wednesday Leave Lahore at 6 A. M. and arrive at Meerut Cantonment at 7-30 P. M.

" 8th Thursday ... Leave Meerut Cantonment at 6 A. M., visit Agra Fort, and arrive at Bhurtpore at 4-20 P. M.

" 9th Friday }  
" 10th Saturday } Halt at Bhurtpore.  
" 11th Sunday }

" 12th Monday ... Leave Bhurtpore 5-40 P. M. and arrive at Agra at 7-15 P. M.

" 13th Tuesday ... Leave Agra 6 A. M. and arrive at Allahabad at 5-27 P. M.

" 14th Wednesday Halt at Allahabad.

" 15th, Thursday ... Leave Allahabad at 11 A. M. and arrive at Benares at 3-30 P. M.

" 16th, Friday ... Leave Benares at 9 30 P. M.

" 17th, Saturday ... Arrive at (Sealdah) Calcutta at 4-42 P. M. Railway Time or 5 P. M. Calcutta Time.

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A SURVEY under Sec. 101 (2) (a) of the Bengal Tenancy Act VIII of 1885 has been ordered of all estates the exclusive property of the minor proprietors of the Srinagar Estate and of all lands included in estates held jointly by the said minors and the Raja of Banaili, in the District of Bhagalpur. The record of right is to include the names of the proprietors with the character and extent of their interest, and the situation, quantity and boundaries of the proprietors' private lands, as defined in Chapter IX of the Act. Mr. E. W. Collin, C.S., is appointed the Settlement Officer and Munshi Burhandeo Narain, Deputy Collector, and Mr. D. L. Roy, Assistant Settlement Officers.

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THERE will be a Photographic Exhibition in Calcutta in January 1888. Lord Dufferin has offered a medal for the best photograph from any part of the world.

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THE Governor-General in Council now exempts the race known as Khasias and Syntegs, in the Chief Commissionership of Assam, from the operation of the Indian Succession Act X of 1865. The exemption has a retrospective effect from the very commencement of that law. The reason is stated to be that the Khasias and Syntegs have special laws of inheritance incompatible with the provisions of the Act of 1865. The discovery seems late, unless there be immediate reasons for the announcement of the inoperativeness of the particular law. The question suggests itself whether there has been any application of the Succession Act, and if so what effect has the present exemption. Lawyers and Judges to the rescue.

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A CAIRO telegram of the 2nd in the *Englishman* reports that a force of 2,000 dervishes has collected at Tarras and 3,000 more further South. Reinforcements for Wady Halfa have been ordered.

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THERE is a newspaper proposal in Moscow to introduce a fourth class in the railways for the benefit of workmen only.

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So little is known of the new States in Eastern Europe, it is difficult to form accurate judgments about them. Yet they are all more or less important factors in that Eastern Question which is ever ready to embroil the Powers and the Principalities. None of these latter are to be despised, and Roumania is a power. According to a writer in the *Times* :—

"The permanent peace force of Roumania consists of 95,000 men, which is capable of being raised in case of war to 225,000, with a further reserve of 150,000 men, consisting of militia and depot troops.

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UPPER Burma has not yet quite been charmed with the British rule. The "Dakaites" or more properly the dakaits are still showing signs of their temper and revenging themselves on all and sundry who come near them. Read the following telegram, from Mandalay, of the October 28, in the *Englishman* :—

"Information has been received from Sagaing of another attack by dakaites. Five Bengalis, on their way to the village for the purpose of purchasing cattle, were attacked by dakaites. Three of the Bengalis were killed, and the other two so horribly hacked all over that all hopes of their recovery have been given up. Some sepoy coming to their assistance were also severely wounded. This incident is but another of the numerous signs that the province is beginning to get unsettled again."

ANOTHER telegram :—

"A great panic is reported all over the district of Minbu and Sagaing, the inhabitants being apprehensive of a sudden attack. The military and civil authorities have been on the alert in the Mandalay district within the last two days also. For the past two nights the military police have been patrolling the town. From Madiya news reaches me that ten dakaites attacked the Myotta village, entering nine houses in succession, and taking away property in cattle and wearing apparel of the value of Rs. 700. Several men were arrested, and among them three were identified as surrendered and pardoned dakaites. From Kyoukse reports have reached the authorities of several attempts to obstruct the railway line already laid down, in consequence of which extra precautions have been taken."

WE also read in the same paper :—

"The military expenditure in Burma has attained proportions which were wholly unexpected when its annexation was determined upon. The drain on the revenues of the country on this account, as well as from the steadily adverse exchange, has created a situation which is full of difficulties for our new Finance Minister. Persistent rumours prevail that Government has it in contemplation to bridge over the gulf between receipts and disbursements by a considerable addition to the Income tax, which, if our information is accurate, will take effect from the 1st of January next. In the interests of the Government and the public we sincerely trust that an authoritative denial may be given to this assertion."

The increase of the tax will only add discontent of the Empire to the disaffection of the newly acquired country. The local Governments have, however, been asked to be economical to meet the costs in Upper Burma.

THE *Mahratta* has learnt from a reliable source that the Sangli State will be relieved of the Joint-Administration, and the Chief Tatyasaheb otherwise Dhundiaraj Chinatman will be invested with full powers, the Imperial Government having been impressed by the manner with which he has conducted himself.

BURWANI has got a new Dewan in the room of Pandit Sham Narain, who is said to have been amiable and to have managed affairs with marked ability. The *Eastern Herald* correspondent says :—

"Mr. Chandipershad, late Superintendent of Chhatterpore state has arrived here on the 6th instant. H. H. the Maharana of the state was pleased to receive him in a Durbar held at 11 A. M. on the 8th instant. The Private Secretary to his Highness delivered an address in English congratulating Mr. Chandipershad who replied in suitable terms in vernacular. His Highness presented him with a *Khilat* and formally appointed Mr. Chandipershad as the Dewan of the state."

As if to illustrate the marked ability with which affairs are managed, the same writer confesses—

Robbery has become so common thing here since a month that the people are obliged to keep themselves awake during the night and watch their property. During very short time many persons have been robbed of large sums, and some are reduced to poverty. The robbers have become so bold as to rob people in broad day light. On the 15th instant, one Beniah lost ornaments to the value of Rs. 200. The state authorities are trying their best to detect the thieves but upto this time their attempt has not been crowned with success."

Happy Burwani and its Raja with his "markedly able Minister and a Private Secretary who can make English speeches to those who don't understand.

THE *Eastern Herald* has a "leader" on the present clamour in the Anglo-Indian Press to gag the Native journals. Our Central Indian contemporary puts the matter so directly and pithily and withal, with such truth and wisdom that we quote his remarks :—

"Native Journalism with no exception is true and loyal to the Government of the Queen-Empress, but it some times becomes the imperative duty of Editors who are not toadies and sycophants, to expose abuses of power, and other grievances, in a plain and fearless manner. One of the papers says that the Bombay native press is the only moderate one, and heaps maledictions upon the poor native Editors of Bengal and the North West Provinces. This is indeed hard, for though the native papers write fearlessly but they do so only in a loyal spirit, with the hope of opening the eyes of the 'powers that be,' to many things, which although deeply affecting the native community, would otherwise escape their notice. A true Native Editor although not a man of war in many cases is one that will always stick up for the right of his countrymen in a constitutional way, and as all right-minded Englishmen desire that the native should enjoy all his privileges, the exposures of abuses, and suggesting remedies for the same is not a fault but a virtue. No class of men in India can be more loyal to the Queen-Empress, than the native Editors, and to them alone can be traced the amelioration of our lot, in many instances. The Anglo-Indian has the natural tendency of the conqueror, to trample upon the rights of the sons of the soil, but when his faults are exposed, through the medium of the native press, the desired end is attained, and our wrongs are inquired into, and in most instances redressed. To gag the native press in any way would be fatal to the British Government for

then things would lapse into the old groove, which was present in the pre-Mutiny days, when the wants of millions were kept dark, and bribery and corruption flourished. Depend upon it, those who wish to gag the native press, have a desire, to have their own doings kept dark, and this being the case, it is entirely for the benefit of the Government of India that the freedom of the Native press should be encouraged, and officials' faults as well as their virtues be publicly brought to light."

THERE is some glee in Madras at the capture of Dr. George Currie. He had charged the officers and some of the passengers of the *Goorkha* steamer with ill-treating him and threatening to throw him overboard in the passage between Ceylon and Madras. The Magistrate having declared the allegations unfounded, the accused was, in his own turn, prosecuted for perjury and defamation. But the astute doctor did not stay for the result, but quietly slipped away. About a fortnight ago, however, he turned up again and has been safely lodged pending the arrival of the *Goorkha* this month, when the inquiry will be taken up.

Is this hero any relation of the notorious Dr. Currie, who was protected by Siddiek Hossein, and who, in return, defied the Residency and thwarted the agency of the Government of India and plied the press of India in favor of the Consort of the Begum?

THE famous temple of Chidambaram, in South Arcot, is now the subject of a litigation. It appears that a suit was instituted against eleven Brahmans connected with the temple to restrain them from repairing it, on the ground that it was a holy structure built by divine hands and that any such human interference would spoil the sanctity of the shrine and be thus a wrong against Hinduism and Hindus. The Judge, however, dismissed the suit and cast the plaintiffs in costs. They appealed and the case is being now heard before Justices Brand and Parker of the High Court.

IT is said that Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit was offered and that he declined the honor of a seat in the Supreme Legislative Council.

THE Sixth Criminal Sessions begins on the 10th instant, Mr. Justice Trevelyan presiding.

THE Marine Court on the *Arcot* loss has, after examining the Captain, a senior master Pilot, the Chief and second officers and the Marine Superintendent, B. I. S. N. Coy., come to the conclusion that the Court saw no ground for suspending any certificates, or making any report to Government against the pilot or any other officer of the vessel. The enquiry was as brief as the sinking of the vessel was rapid.

THE mystery of "Spiritualism" exposed !—

"Miss Fay, who has received several flattering notices in leading London papers, was recently giving a "Spiritualistic" séance at Blackburn; but the performance came to sudden termination, for some people in the audience struck lights. Miss Fay was supposed to be floating across the room in semi-darkness, but as the figure passed over the heads of the audience it was caught, and lo! the Spiritualistic object was found to be nothing but a dummy of worsted and gauze manipulated by wires, while Miss Fay herself was seen to have climbed to the roof."

EVEN the mild Hindu is capable of running amok, like any tiptling Malay or mad Mopallay. The proof was given lately at Ootapidarman, in the Tinnevely district, by one Nellasiden Pillay, a temple accountant. This man having quarrelled at home with his wife, another Pellai, his brother-in-law, a promising young vakil, named Ramlingam, stepped to the house to settle their differences. And he paid the inevitable penalty. But he was more unlucky than most in the same situation. For he did not escape with a broken nose—the prescribed penalty for interposing in other's quarrels, but paid dearly for his mission of peace—with life itself. In the act of pacifying the husband, he was suddenly stabbed in the breast. He turned away screaming when he was stabbed in the back, and fell down dead some thirty yards off. And then it went on, in the usual reckless, random way, the frantic and now affrighted husband hitting whoever approached him. Thus his mother-in-law and two other Pillais were wounded and had to be removed to hospital. Only one of the wounded Pillais tried to arrest the offender, who was finally captured by the Police.

THE *Indian Daily News* lately related a case of lynching by Bengali rural boys. At Majagram, a village in the district of Howrah, some

juvenile cowherds tending cattle caught a large grasshopper which one of them wilfully killing, the rest were so enraged that they proceeded to execute summary justice on the "murderer." They seized him and carrying him to the nearest tree, hanged him on it by the neck with his own waist cloth. When they found the poor fellow did no more struggle, the seriousness of their pastime of justice all at once flashed upon them, and they set up crying and then went and told their seniors. These were too simple or too afraid of any traitor in their camp, to try to burk the accident with a story of snake bite or cholera, and appear to have informed the police. The poor boys are said to be in custody.

We do not know what truth there may be in the story. But this is not the first instance of boyish freak of the kind. Medical Jurisprudence notices at least one such case.

WE regret to learn that Mr. Anantarama Iyer, Sarvani, the Palace Chamberlain or Superintendent at Trevandrum, who, under the initials I. C. B., has become so well-known, has lost his son of eleven years, whose ceremony of investiture with the holy thread was lately held with such pomp, and that his wife also is dangerously ill.

THE week's *Calcutta Gazette* contains the Bengal Resolution on the first year's working of the Income Tax.

The total demand under all parts of the tax amounted to Rs. 39,36,958, and the realizations came up to Rs. 38,60,658. The charges are given at Rs. 2,84,219. The net revenue, therefore, from this tax, is Rs. 35,76,439. The percentage of collection is 99. The percentage of objections to original assessments is calculated to be 27.5, in other words, out of 106,936 assessments, 29,413 were objected to. In Chittagong, Gya, and Angul, this percentage went up to 50.9, 54.3 and 71.9 respectively. The Government is satisfied that the assessments have been careful and judicious. The percentage of successful objections (partial and entire) is 48, thus shewing (the Resolution claims), "there was no unwillingness to modify assessments." The Calcutta and Darjeeling percentages are much higher, namely, 78.4 and 73.3 respectively. Is it to be supposed that Government at its seats was blandness itself? Such a suggestion is directly negatived by the Lieutenant-Governor's criticism on the Calcutta administration. The incidence of the tax, including Calcutta, is stated to be Re. 1 to every 19 persons. Excluding the metropolis, it falls to Re. 1 to every 39 persons. In Calcutta, the tax was as much as Rs. 2½ to every person, notwithstanding "there were no sales in execution of warrants of distress." Some explanation may be found in the fact that "the issue of process was resorted to with great freedom." The Resolution significantly adds, "A percentage of 21 on the total number of persons finally assessed is abnormally high and the Lieutenant-Governor cannot think that sufficient circumspection was exercised in granting issue of warrants." May it not be that coercion was used to realize unequal assessments?

### Notes & Readerettes.

WE are glad to hear Sir Charles Bernard mentioned as a not unlikely successor to Mr. Cordery in the Residency at Hyderabad. It is just the kind of place for him now. It were a pity to lock up so much talent for government. Sir Charles is a great administrator, his apparent failure in Burma notwithstanding. He deserves one of the great Governments, and would have got one but for the unhappy turn of affairs in Upper Burma. Just now he is, we fear, physically incapable of such burdens. Upper Burma had done for him.

MR. LISTER, Judge of Rajamundry, has charged one Palagummy Kamarazu before the Joint Magistrate, with offering him a bribe. The pleaders practising in the District having declined to take the defendant's brief, he went to Madras for his counsel and engaged Mr. Norton, the well-known barrister. As there was no time, Mr. Norton applied by telegram for adjournment till his arrival. The Joint-Magistrate refused. Mr. Norton repeated his request but in vain, the Magistrate commenced the trial on the day fixed, the 12th October, and went through the evidence for the prosecution, notwithstanding the defendant's petition for time to make motion before the High Court for transfer of the case. So far as Rajamundry is concerned, Kamarazu

is doomed. He is in good hands, however, with the redoubtable Norton, worthy son of a great father. All the same, the conduct of the Rajamundry pleaders is as cruel as contemptible. We wish they could be punished for such grave neglect of duty. At any rate, the Vakils of the South ought to mark decisively their sense of such baseness. It is common enough among us to hear complaints of the superior advantages of the members of the English bar, and no doubt they owe something to favour, but nonetheless do they owe far more to themselves. We confess we observe signs of a falling off in the morale of both the English bar and bench in India, on our side, but this we regard as something exceptional and temporary. As a rule, judges and counsel alike have upheld their character for independence and professional loyalty. It is by following such examples that native lawyers and judges have established a character for themselves unknown before in the land. It is not by such pusillanimity and poltroonery as the Rajamundry pleaders showed, that the Native bar will ever rise to the position to which it aspires.

NEW South Wales has passed an advanced Divorce Bill, introduced by the Government. It is on the American lines:—

"It would enable a woman with a habitually drunken and negligent husband, or a husband convicted of serious crimes, to rid herself of her bargain. Confirmed habits of wife beating or an attempt at wife murder are also recognised as grounds for dissolving the marriage tie; and generally the relief afforded to the woman is extended to the man. The clause, however, which excites most opposition is that which refers to continuous desertion by either party for three years. This, it is urged, will encourage collusion."

Such legislation is a strange commentary on the advantages of self-choice by grown up men and women. Why does not Europe and Greater Europe try the Shiah contrivance of the *Motah*, with which the Indian public has, since the death of the king of Oudh, become so familiar? A great European advocated something of the kind.

THE least reliable part of the Briton is his temper. It serves him in good stead at times, investing him with an extra formidableness, but much oftener operates to his prejudice, and does pure mischief. An apparently good man has come to grief from this proneness to fire up. We refer to Collector Allen of Sholapore, who had earned golden opinions by his success in reviving the local races. It was at these very races—his own pet institution—that Mr. William Allen proved his nationality. The arrangements were not perfect. The accommodation was defective. There were not tents enough, and such as there were they were not all provided with seats. In the absence of any notice of reservation, some natives had made themselves as comfortable in them as they could, by squatting themselves on the ground, leaving their shoes at the door. This was too much for the Sahab Collector. The tents were intended for ladies and gentlemen, and natives are not "gentlemen" of course, still less "ladies." But probably the squatting scene most vexed the Collectorial soul. It was trifling with his own dear Sholapore races. What chiefly fixed his eye were the coverings for the nether extremities exhibited at the entrance to the tent. Nothing like leather—to draw out certain folks! It fixed the cognate organ of seeing and then sent a shock to the being within. In a moment, the leather goods went flying about the tent-room. The Briton was paying the "Baboos" of Sholapore in their own—shoes. We are not told whether the latter quietly pocketed the attention or returned the compliment, with or without interest. And now that all is over, the Collector Bahadour must be very foolish and uncomfortable at his own feat. We do not envy Mr. William Allen, of the Bombay Civil Service.

MRS. CRAIK nee Miss Mulock, the wellknown novelist, is dead. She did not write half as much perhaps as either of the *Mistresses of Sensation*, Miss Braddon or Mrs. Henry Wood, or "Ouida," but she always wrote to some worthy purpose, because always animated with a good purpose and in obedience to a distinct internal call. As such, she was regarded as "goody"—in a sort of Hain Friswell in petticoats. She was certainly not exciting reading like the other and more popular novelists, but she was never insipid, except on the ground of being not naughty.

Both *the Gentle Life* and *John Halifax, Gentleman*, inculcate a high Christian morality, and the purpose of both authors' writing is to train up model British gentlemen. There the analogy ends. Not only did they adopt habitually different literary forms, but in genius and art and finish, the lady left the gentleman distinctly behind. Her chief novel will probably endure as a work of prose fiction. Certainly, her



ballads, "most musical, most melancholy" can never be forgotten. Friswell has never had half as many readers, and his little story and fugitive pieces are already half forgotten.

Miss Mulock was a native of the Potteries District and, though so long ago as 1864 she married Mr. G. L. Craik, a member of the publishing house of Macmillan and Co., she, like Miss Fanny Kemble and others, preferred to retain her maiden name in literature.

**EVIL** has a feline vitality. National prejudices in particular are hard to extirpate. Against them, the law itself is powerless for good. Thus, the disability of the Jew still continues. The *Jewish World* complains—

"Miss Jeannette Goldberg of Dallas, Texas, a refined and accomplished young lady, was invited by Professor Massey, of Sherwood Female College, Staunton, to occupy the position of teacher. She accepted the offer, and the contract was mutually signed. Subsequently the learned professor discovered that the young lady was a member of the Hebrew faith, and he forthwith asked her to cancel the contract, as he considered the risk far too great to engage a Jewess as teacher in his establishment. Miss Goldberg immediately complied with the request."

So the Israelites are practically ostracised in Christendom. The truth is, it is not enough for the law to enfranchise a class—not till society cordially accept the change, can such a class be free. Of course, the alteration in law hastens the change in social feeling, as a changed sentiment brings about a reform in the law. Surely, it was time enough for Christian society to relent towards the poor Israelites! That case of Miss Goldberg proves that it is not yet prepared to do so. The Western world may not be as savage against non-Christians, but it is certainly as intolerant, as Eastern Europe.

We suspect it is this intolerance towards Jews in England, that sends so many out to this country. It is noteworthy that the high-placed Jews in the several Departments of Government are implacable in their animosity towards the poor natives.

**MR. RUSKIN** having recently purchased some water-colour drawings of old Folkestone,—place dear to all admirers of Turner—Mr. Felix Joseph had the effrontery to suggest, in the columns of the *Folkestone Express*, that he should be asked to present them to the town museum. Mr. Ruskin has written the following characteristic letter to the Editor:—

"Sir,—My attention has been directed to the letter in your issue of the 28th, headed "A Peep at Old Folkestone," to which I can only reply that as new Folkestone has sold all that was left of old Folkestone to the service of Old Nick, in the multifarious personality of the South Eastern Railway Company, charges me, through the said company, a penny every time I want to look at the sea from the old pier, and allows itself to be blinded for a league along the beach by smoke more black than thunder clouds, I am not in the least minded to present new Folkestone with any peeps and memories of the shore it has destroyed, or the harbour it has filled and polluted, and the happy and simple human life it has rendered for ever in the dear old town impossible. The drawings were bought for better illustration of Turner's work and my own on the harbours of England, and will, I hope, therefore be put to a wider service than they were likely to find in Folkestone Museum.—I am, sir, your faithful servant, J. Ruskin.—Folkestone, Sept. 30, 1887."

Served right! There is too much of this Felix Joseph sort of narrowminded and unfeeling hunt after public weal and—notoriety. There was nothing to prevent Mr. Joseph buying the picture himself, but he was careful of his own pence, and prepared to be liberal with only other people's. Nor would he induce any of his bloated town-magnates or the corporation itself to buy. Why should he? had he not meditated *Loot*? Was he not ready with his neat little plan of plunder cut and dried? He preferred to wait till—the poor Pandit and artist had laid out his hard-earned money on them, and then appears on the field to dispute the possession.

**SEVERAL** of our colleagues in the Native Press, are noticing the death of the Calcutta millionaire, Baboo Tarini Churn Bhowe, which we recorded week before last. *Young Bengal*, we see, cannot hope with us that, now the old screw is gone, the family will turn a new leaf. Our contemporary hints of litigation. Never mind! It will not go amiss if part of the estate is eaten up in that way. Such occasions are the opportunity of the lawyers. Why should our contemporary grieve at their luck? Call them drones or call them cormorants, they are the creatures of our system of judicature. In the present matter, they cannot but serve a useful purpose by promoting circulation and distribution of wealth. Such an everlasting

accumulation is a wrong and an abomination. We confess to holding strong opinions on the subject—opinions that may be deemed paradoxical to the extent of being queer. We doubt whether any man has a right—that is, a moral right—to build up such a gigantic fortune. Certainly, no man ought to go on adding without cessation or other diversion. Such a *rôle* involves an abuse of the acquisitive faculties and prudential powers. It is unnatural, ungenerous, and even cruel. We believe the son who in his youth sowed his wild oats, lived a worthier, because more natural, life than the father who, by a course of purposeless self-denial and of the repression of all human instincts in himself and in those dependent on him, has left a fabulous fortune. *Young Bengal* confirms our account of the last moments of the deceased.

"It is a matter of pity that the old man could not persuade himself to die a Hindu—that is on the banks of the holy Ganges. An attempt was made to remove him to his garden house on the river bank but the old man was anxious for the custody of the money because his relations all desired to live with him on the river side."

The eldest son is believed to be a "true copy" of the sire, but we have great hopes in some of the others making right use of their opportunity, especially two we knew. One was an amiable soul. They had a sister who was a poetess—we hope she lives. God bless them all.

**THE *Sind Times*** acknowledges receipt of a volume of Poems and Sonnets by Mirza Kalich Beg. This is a Sindhi gentleman serving as a subordinate revenue and magisterial officer in his native Province. He has already acquired a reputation in poetry in the vernacular tongue. He is the luckiest of literary men. We are told that his Sindhi ballads have found their way to villages in Upper Sind where they are recited by the peasantry. He has thus realised the aspiration of Fletcher of Saltoun. What a pity that our Mirza Sahib should not be content with this grand success and pursue it on the self-same lines, instead of frittering away his powers on the nearly hopeless game of competing with foreigners on their own ground, and risking his happiness by offering himself a sacrifice to Moloch of mischievous, if not malignant, Anglo-Indian criticism! In the Valhalla of English Poesy, if by dint of genius and energy and application, he can force entrance into it, he will probably be no more than a shrinking pigmy suffered to stand in a corner. In Sindhi, he is not only supreme, but all alone, we fancy. What an opportunity truly is there! And he has already caught the popular taste and made his way to the people's heart! All is plain-sailing henceforward! He has not only a virgin field before him but the forming of a nation in his hands if he will but see his way. It is given to few men to influence the fortunes of a community. The Mirza has the opportunity of shaping the mind of his countrymen at this important point in their history—in their passage from the traditions of the past to the civilisation of the future. He is responsible to God and man for his use thereof.

**THE Calcutta Mint** is in the way of being a thing of the past. The Bombay Chamber of Commerce, as a measure of economy, suggested the closing of the Metropolitan Mint. The Governor-General in Council, "has accordingly examined the facts concerning the capacity of the Bombay Mint to undertake the whole of the coinage offered at both Calcutta and Bombay; and has come to the conclusion that the (Bombay) Mint is now in a position to coin at least 1½ crore of rupees monthly, or that it can easily and at small cost be made capable of doing so, so that the whole demand for Rupee coinage is well within or can easily be brought within the power of the Bombay Mint."

Government, however, will not pass the final order, before it has heard the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and the Bank of Bengal on the question of the necessity for maintaining at Calcutta, as well as at Bombay, the existing facility for the coinage of imported silver.

**THE Jubilee collections**, particulars whereof will be found elsewhere, may well gladden the hearts of the authors of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund. The Lady President in her last letter thanks all donors for their aid in the work she has taken in hand for benefit of the women of India in whom her Queen and Empress takes such interest. Lady Dufferin specially is mindful of the small donors who have not inconsiderably swelled the Fund, but who have received no separate personal recognition, and thanks them particularly. The small donations ranging from one anna to Rs. 100 come up to above 1½ lac. The publication of the full particulars of these small donations cannot fail to be an interesting study. The collections mark at once the

loyalty of the Indian population and the respect in which Her Majesty's representatives are held in India. Besides the satisfaction of contributing towards the alleviation of human suffering, the donors will have the honor of figuring in the Register of donations in aid of the Fund which will be presented to the Queen-Empress as a souvenir of the Royal Jubilee.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1887.

### THE ENGLISH IN INDIA.

#### • *An Indian View of the Situation.*

No thoughtful person can contemplate the present position of the country without recognising the vast potentialities for good or for evil which centre round every Englishman in India, and no lover of his country, Indian or English, can ignore the intimate connection which exists between the mutual attitude of the two communities and the prosperity of the Empire which links them together in, for all present practical purposes, indissoluble chains. It is therefore but natural that the recent publication of the article *The English in India*, in the columns of the *Pioneer*, has attracted considerable attention from all classes of Indian readers. Although the disquisition does not receive full editorial adoption, but is put forward as the individual composition of M., nevertheless the children of the soil cannot but be thankful for small mercies, considering their source, and fondly hope that this is but the good beginning of a better end, to wit, the complete cure of that Indophobia which, with rare intermissions, is a chronic disease with our Allahabad contemporary. For which consummation devoutly to be wished, we add a Brahman's blessings whatever might be their efficacy upon unbelievers.

We realise fully, with the writer, the vast amount of harm done to English rule in India by Englishmen themselves, and certainly, it is quite true, that, so far as mere unmeaning and purposeless insults to native susceptibilities are concerned, the juvenile offenders are the worst. The best cure for the manifestation would be a course of juvenile punishments. A friend and countryman at our elbow relates an instance of boyish insult which he witnessed and suffered within the last month. He was leaving Howrah by the noon up train and chanced to be the occupant of a carriage which contained two other native passengers, elderly in age and of respectable appearances. Needless to say that they occupied between them one of the benches. The other two were occupied by what appeared to be a family party bound for a picnic excursion. The youngest of the party was a sweet little girl below her teens, whose incessant prattle was music to hear, and whose imitations of womanliness would be a study for a philosopher. Next her came a fair-skinned tall stripling, scarce out of his teens, yet fit for the schoolmaster's rod, though perhaps influential connections might have seated him on some official stool to play at business in some mercantile house. This juvenile wit, racking his empty brains to devise some brilliant *bon mot*, remarked, that there were three "missing links" there. The train was at that time passing through a station, and the witling extended his hand towards the Baboos in such an ambiguous way that the gesture might point either to them or to people on the station platform behind, or to the inhabitants of the trees still farther beyond. But there can be no mistake as to what the boy meant, although his elderly

companions failed to grasp the point of the joke at its first travail, and when understood after repetition they seemed more ashamed than delighted thereat. Would it do this smart boy any good to hear, that long before Darwin wrote his book, native rural tradition had ascribed a quadrumanous origin to certain foreign races? Such then are the insults which even respectable natives are liable to suffer at the hands of the British infantry. Children may be excused much of what they do or say, but if their elders fail to correct them, the victims cannot be blamed if they distribute the guilt between wards and guardians alike. We do not speak here of legal infancy, but practically every young man who comes out very young to India, has some elderly friend or relation or superior to whose care he is consigned by parents, and it is beyond doubt that much of this juvenile offence would disappear if the elders did their duty.

The writer in the *Pioneer* is quite right in his assertion that the appreciation of the English character by the natives as a mass, varies inversely with their opportunities for intercourse with them. And the question becomes all the more pressing with the increased number of Englishmen in the country. As railways and plantations increase, the area of disturbance increases at each step; and the trader follows the wake of both, until a time may come when even the vast mass of the peasantry of the continent may be affected thereby. Nor should it be supposed that an area is safe because no Englishman sets his foot therein. The native is proverbially a lover of his village home. Hundreds of servants, public and private, thousands of suitors and witnesses, tens-of-thousands of laborers and pilgrims pass and repass between centres exposed to European influences and distant parts of the country where a white face is unknown, and each returned exile is a centre of narration from whose experiences a large circle of hearers form their opinion of the dominant race. Viewed in this light, the area of country not exposed to such influences for good or for evil, would shrink to very small dimensions indeed.

In connection with this topic, it would be unwise to ignore the systematic and uncalled for abuse which is showered upon the country and its people by some Anglo-Indian journals. The number of English-reading natives is daily on the increase, and such vituperations not only lead to bad feeling in the readers at first hand, but do perhaps more mischief by the reprisals they provoke from the Native Press, or the sour temper which they produce even when unchallenged. The vernacular press is conducted in great many cases by men versed in English literature, and even where this is not the case, regular translators are employed by the editors to make notes for private use of what appears in the leading Anglo-Indian papers.

Looking to the poverty of the country, the distress caused by increased taxation, and the increasing military expenditure which threatens a still further drain upon the public finances, any plan which promises relief of the public burdens by increased internal security and a feeling of active loyalty, is well worthy of the most anxious consideration alike by the Government and the people, and we have no doubt that the *Pioneer*, in giving insertion to M.'s article, has drawn attention to the subject in a more marked manner than would have been the case had the matter appeared in any journal conducted by our countrymen. We trust it will continue to receive the attention of all thoughtful men and will-wishers of

the Empire, English or Indian, until a decided change for the better is brought about as the result of their labors.

### THE OUDH FAMILY.

For the last several weeks, we have given up noticing the affairs of the Oudh family. The interval has been utilised by claimants and their agents in filling the press with all sorts of unfounded stories, false suggestions, and frivolous issues. The value of some of the statements industriously circulated, may be seen from some letters received by us which we publish. The story of his mother's services during the Mutiny, with which Mirza Kamr Kadr Bahadoor seeks to bolster up his claim to the lead in the King's household, is exploded by "Historicus." He writes:—

In the *Englishman's* issue of the 24th ultimo mention is made of "the revival of an old story of the mutiny, when two English ladies in Lucknow, Mrs. Orr and Miss Jackson, were saved from the massacre, through the exertions of the third wife of his Majesty," (the late King of Oudh) "who, with her son, had been temporarily left at the capital when the King was brought to Calcutta." The paragraph then proceeds to name Prince Kamar Kadr as the son whose mother had the glory of the salvage in question.

Permit me to point out that in Mr. Gubbins' *Account of the Mutinies in Oudh*, the credit of this protection is given, not to Nawab Fakr Mehl of Kidderpur, mother of Prince Kamar Kadr, but to Daroga Wajid Ali:

"Subsequent accounts have mentioned the death from sickness of little Sophy Christian; the murder of the men; and the final escape of the two ladies, and of Mrs. Orr's daughter. These ladies were rescued, after the capture of the city of Lucknow, by Captain McNeill and Lieutenant Bogle, of the Bengal Artillery. From the account given by them it appeared that they had been protected and well treated by one Daroga Wajid Ali." P. 380.

From the preceding page of the same work it appears that the ladies so rescued were Miss Madeleine Jackson and Mrs. Orr.

Some more light is thrown upon the same incident by the following passage, in Sir John Kaye's *Sepoy War in India*:

"One, indeed, had been their friend from the first of their captivity in the Kaiser Bagh. His name was Wajid Ali, and he was a Daroga of the Native Government." P. 490.

Sir John Kaye then goes on to describe the manœuvre by which the infant daughter of Mrs. Orr was carried out of her captivity in the Kaiser Bagh:

"Counsel was now taken with him (Daroga Wajid Ali) as to the best means of saving the child. The sympathies of a native woman—a resident of Lucknow—were enlisted in favor of the child and her mother; and one day, after some earlier schemes had failed, the deliverance was accomplished. They stained the hands and the feet of the little girl so as to resemble those of a Native child, and the woman who was acting this good part wrapped her in a sheet, and with well simulated weepings and lamentations cried out the precious burden as though she were taking the body of her own little one to burial, and thus eluded the vigilance of the guards."

"Then, after this, to the two" (Mrs. Orr and Miss Jackson) "who were left there was a season of weary suspense.

But Wajid Ali was still true to them, and when it was seen that the Kaiser Bagh was no longer safe, under the vigorous bombardment to which it was now subjected, he placed them in a palanquin, and, not without difficulty, conveyed them to another abode. But this was not beyond the reach of danger, so a second departure became necessary, and now they were housed beneath the same roof as (Daroga) Wajid Ali's wife and children." From which house they were rescued by Captain McNeill and Lieutenant Bogle.

The credit, certainly, is awarded here to Daroga Wajid Ali and not to any Begum of Oudh. Nawab Fakr Mehal, even under the temptation of adding a spoke to the wheel of her son's candidature for the headship of the Royal house, would be the last person to suggest that she could be the Native woman who personally carried out Mrs. Orr's girl from the Kaiser Bagh, through the streets of Lucknow, lamenting the death of her supposed child. Yet that is the only woman whom the books speak of in this connection, and even then only as an accomplice or instrument of Daroga Wajid Ali. Unless, therefore, proof positive be forthcoming for the truth of the "revived story," it must be set aside as an unfounded myth, circulated by irresponsible correspondents in the press, with a view of advancing the interests of particular persons. If there be any evidence upon the point, by all means let the same be produced for public judgment. If there be none such forthcoming, let the myth die a natural death without receiving the seal and sanction of editorial repetition.

His Majesty Wajid Ali Shah was known as the author of many published books, some of them of an autobiographical character. I should suppose that if searched they would throw some light on this controversy as to the exact position of Daroga Wajid Ali and the true history of the rescue.

### HISTORICUS.

The *communique* in the same interest which the *Bengalee* published editorially, is equally incorrect and misleading. That article ought to open the eyes of Colonel Prideaux to the character of his *entourage* and of those whom he has to deal with. The slightest word from him, the veriest business arrangement, the idlest compliment is sure to be seized for purposes of aggrandisement. Such things have actually a money value at this moment. It is lucky that he did not distinctly commit himself, or the consequences might have been worse. But the simple fact of his having, at the recommendation of Nawab Khas Mahal, given a cheque of Rs. 2,500 towards the *Chehlum* expenses, in the name of Prince Kamr Kadr, has been made political capital of, as if this was tantamount to the Government recognising the latter as the head of the family. He now wished to issue the invitations to the ceremony himself, but the Agent rightly did not humour him there. So the cards were issued in the name of the Family of the late King.

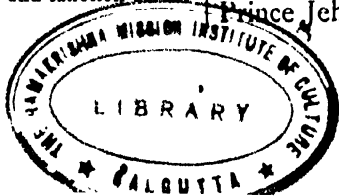
How the royal *Sradh* was conducted may be partly understood from the following communication received by us:—

We are surprised to find some statements made in the last issue of your contemporary the *Bengalee*, about the affairs of the Oudh family. Apparently your contemporary has been misinformed. The fact is that Colonel Prideaux originally requested Prince Jehan Kadr Bahadoor to make arrangements for the *Chehlum* of the late King, and the Prince accordingly, in conjunction with the chief priest Shumsul Ullama Mooftee Meer Abbas, was taking steps to make the preliminary arrangements when some of the Shahzadahs headed by "the so-called eldest son of the late king", Shahzadah Kamar Kadr appeared on the scene and applied to the Agent to the Governor General for undertaking the duty of performing the ceremony. The Agent, on their application, ordered Munsaram-ud-Dowlah, the chief officer of the late King, to assist them with the services of some coolies and Sowars. But we should not enter into detail here. The *Chehlum* is now over. Those who attended the late King's *Imambarah* on Sunday last to witness the performance of the ceremony, were quite disappointed. A very small number of guests was present on the occasion. Except four or five persons of note there was no one whose name can be mentioned. Your contemporary the *Indian Daily News* also made a gross mistake in mentioning the names of princes Unwar Shah, Farrukh Shah, Nawab Abdool Lutef, Bahadoor, &c. None of these gentlemen even paid a visit to Mateaburz on that day. It is said that many poor people were sent away without *pillau* or a handful of rice. The absence of guests of distinction on such an occasion is surely a mark of the irregular arrangements made by the Shahzadahs. We hear with surprise that the so-called chief host made himself conspicuous by his absence during the Majlis. Prince Jehan Kadr Bahadoor is said to have attended the Majlis from the beginning and left the *Imambarah* when the ceremony was over. We take this opportunity to state here for the information of the public that Shahzadah Kamar Kadr is not the eldest son of the late King. He was never recognised so by his late Majesty during his life-time. If there be any eldest son, it is prince Brijis Kadr who, it is said, is now residing in Nepal. We regret to observe here that from the pen of the *Bengalee* wrong and exaggerated statements should come out.

### THE BEE.

Nov. 3.

We have heard worse of the late business. Rich and poor were impartially served. The respectable guests had not their "shares" sent them. The King's sons themselves have not smelled the *pillau* of His Majesty's *Chehlum*, unless Prince Kamr Kadr, Peara Saheb and Moulvi Deen Mahummud were the exception. Nay, there were no refreshments for the guests at the assembly—no *hookahs* or *pan* or *sherbet* offered—not even a drink of plain water was available. There was no body to receive the guests. Of course, so long as Prince Jehan Kadr remained, he performed that duty,



and the meeting was orderly and proper. After he left, it was all uproar and disorder. There was none of sufficient gravity of character or influence to preserve decency.

### HOOGHLY.

November 1, 1887.

We have very nearly passed through all the festivities of the season and are now in the midst of the Rashjatra. Though there is not any Rashjatra here, we have one in Kantalpara just in front of Chinsurah on the 24-Perghanas side of the river. This was started many years ago by the late Maharajah Sreesh Chandra Rai Bahadur of Nudda who with the help of his friend Baboo Ashutosh Deb (popularly called Chatoo Baboo) performed this ceremony with great éclat for half a dozen years. With the death of the Rajah, the affair waned and at the present moment it has lost much of its former splendour and pomp. The Rajahs of Nudda still send one of their family idols to preside over the ceremony.

I suppose a letter of news from a moffusil station will be incomplete without the usual allusion to the weather. Well, the weather has been wet since yesterday and I hope this rain will usher in the cold weather in right earnest.

This district has had a long list of crime reported this year. You must have heard how a drunken ror went quietly into one of the court houses here, when the Bench Magistrates were trying a case; and bending over one of the muktears who was taking notes of cross-examination, ran his razor through his throat. The Civil Surgeon being handy, medicines were promptly applied and the man's life was saved. There was of course a woman at the bottom, as the trial of the man subsequently showed. The culprit was transported for life by the Sessions Judge. Since then several heinous cases have happened, and I understand that one single Deputy Magistrate has committed no less than 9 cases to the sessions in the course of the last 2 months. This is too much for such an advanced District like Hooghly. There is one case however which is at the present moment under trial before one of the Deputy Magistrates here and which beats the rest in point of sensation. I give the facts as stated by the witnesses for the prosecution, as they may prove to be interesting to your readers.

At about 8 p. m. on a certain day just before the Poojahs, a ticca gharry, containing a young Bengali lady and a Bhooteah Darwan on the coach box, pulled up in front of the Chinsurah Out-post which is situated in the midst of a popular Bazar. The lady sent her Darwan as well as the coach-man to the neighbouring shops to make a few purchases. While she was thus seated, a young medical practitioner of this place, who happened to be somewhere near, went up to the carriage, opened the door and thrust his hand inside the carriage. The lady in spite of her apparently anglicised mode of going about, got frightened and shouted out for the help of Police. A constable who was near at hand ran up to the place and caught hold of the hand of the young medico. The latter however gave the constable a good beating, tore his uniform and went away. I have merely stated the facts as they have been put forward by the Police and reserve my comments till the case is finally disposed of. I hear Mr. Lal Mohan Ghose is going to defend the accused.

The Chinsura people are now in the midst of great excitement on account of the ensuing Municipal Elections. Brisk canvassing is going on on all sides and emissaries are being sent all over the place to secure votes. I only hope that such men will be selected as are able to devote time, energy, and attention to municipal matters, otherwise the system will fail as it has already done in many places. I do not see any reason why one of the Law brothers, the millionaires of your city, should not come forward and get elected for one of the wards of this town. This is their birthplace and as such they should respect it more than they do the heavens—so say our Shashtras.

FAITH.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

#### THE COUNTESS OF DUFFERIN'S FUND.

On the 8th of January of this year you were good enough to publish a letter in which I appealed to Members of the National Association and to all others interested in its work "to join me in making some special effort to commemorate Her Majesty the Queen-Empress' Jubilee, and at the same time to benefit those Indian women in whose welfare the Queen takes so great and personal an interest."

It is unnecessary for me to repeat the arrangements made to carry out this suggestion; but now that the collection is closed, I shall be glad if you will allow me, through the columns of your paper, to inform those who interested themselves in the matter, of the success of the effort made, and to give a few particulars with regard to the sums collected. On the 15th of October, on which day we were obliged to close the list of "Jubilee" subscriptions and donations, we had received Rs. 4,78,465 in India, and £1,770 in England. Our Jubilee collection therefore exceeds five lakhs.

Of this sum 3½ lakhs were received in large donations, the remainder being the aggregate of smaller subscriptions on cards. Most of the Branches of the Association took an active part in this collection, and Rs. 75,925 has been paid over to them according to the rules laid down in my letter of the 1st of January.

To all donors of large sums and to the collectors of smaller ones I have sent receipts, and I have therefore, in some way, been able to acknowledge their kindness, and to express my appreciation of their generosity. I have, however, still to thank the tens of thousands of persons whose subscriptions, ranging from one anna to Rs. 100, have so greatly swelled this Jubilee collection, and whose gifts, appearing on other people's cards, have as yet received no personal recognition. I take this opportunity of doing so most heartily.

The list of donors and collectors is now being prepared for transmission to the Queen-Empress, and the same list with the address forwarded to Her Majesty, will, for the information of subscribers, be published in the Report of the National Association in January 1888. And here I must add that although this letter refers only to the "Jubilee collection" and to the money which has actually passed through my hands, it would be incomplete did it not contain at least a passing allusion to the well-directed efforts and to the large sums which are being spent in various parts of India, upon Female Hospitals, and other works in connection with the National Association, and in commemoration of the Queen-Empress' Jubilee. Her Majesty's attention will be drawn to these, and detailed accounts of them will also appear in the Annual Report.

The system of collection by cards inaugurated on this occasion has certainly been successful. It has proved that vast numbers of persons are interesting themselves in the work of the Association, and it has shown that by a very simple organization, a lakh and a half can be collected in small sums such as thousands of persons are both able and willing to give. I hope therefore to continue it for the benefit of the Central Fund, though I cannot after this year undertake to receive money for the Branches.

The Central Committee have now been enabled to invest the five lakhs which they were anxious to lay by as an Endowment Fund. The Branches are likewise endeavouring to invest money so as to ensure the continuity of the work of the National Association. We trust therefore that although the next year affords no special occasion for liberality, the progress already made in carrying out the objects of the Association, and the assurance of stability given to it by the possession of a certain, though a comparatively small income, will encourage all who are interested in the welfare of the women of India to make still further efforts on their behalf, and to give us the means of more quickly relieving their sufferings, and of supplying them with the medical aid which they so greatly need.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) HARRIOT DUFFERIN,

Lady President,

Viceregal Lodge,  
Simla, Oct 25, 1887.

National Association for supplying Female  
Medical Aid to the Women of India.

I am surprised to find that you have been so far led away by the false and insinuating statements of an irresponsible informant as to give a wrong account of what you have styled the municipal squabble in Uttarpara. I am afraid the account has been furnished to you by one of those enemies of Local Self-Government who have been the veritable wire-pullers in this false case.

The "noise" in the Municipal office regarding votes to which you have referred is any thing but true. There was it is true, an endeavour on the part of the members of the Uttarpara Union to get the names of about 80 or 90 voters registered, but the Municipal overseer had nothing to do with the enquiry held by the sub-divisional officer. The statement again that the overseer was waylaid in front of Babu Joykissen's house is also perfectly false. The place of occurrence is alleged by the complainant to have been the entrance door of Babu Gobindo Chandra Banerjee's house in Female school street, some 200 yards from Babu Joykissen's house. Then again the complainant is not the son of the late Lokenath Chatterjee and the deceased did not quarrel with Babu Joykissen two years ago, he having died over 20 years ago. The time of the occurrence was alleged to have been 5-30 or 6 in the evening and not in course of a morning walk as your informant gives you to understand. Then the part of your story which states that Rajendra Nath was sentenced to 12 hours' simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 51 is false as well. Rajendra Nath was at first simply fined Rs. 10 ten only, but on counsel's asking the court the fine was raised to Rs. 51 to make the case appealable.

Uttarpara,

1st November, 1887.

TRUTH.

### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 22nd October 1887.—Baboo Nagendro Nath Ghose, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bogra, is transferred to Noakhally, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1887.

No. 297

## News & Comments.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY returned to Belvedere yesterday.

THE Home Secretary, Mr. A. P. Macdonell, goes home by the mail of the 13th January 1888 and does not return till the next Simla season.

MR. H. A. COCKERELL, C. S. I., is permitted to relieve Her Majesty's Bengal Civil Service, with effect from the 24th August, 1887. Mr. Cockerell was permitted to officiate as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal when Sir Rivers Thompson went on sick leave. Mr. Cockerell was a person of some note when the late Sir Ashley Eden occupied Belvedere.

MR. WARD made over charge of the Chief Commissionership of Assam, on the 31st October, to Mr. D. Fitzpatrick. Mr. Ward officiated in the post for more than 2½ years. He introduced the notorious Land Revenue Regulation, which became law on the 1st July 1886. The planters lose with him a friend. The natives will feel a relief at the change.

ON the night of the 29th October, about a hundred Abors made a raid into a Duffla village close to the Hormuty Tea Factory in North Lakhimpore, Assam. They carried off 11 persons and the moveables they found. A female has returned to report that the male prisoners were hacked to pieces on the way back. She herself was pierced with arrows in the hand.

SIR JOHN POPE HENNESSY does not resume the government of Mauritius until March 1888. He has taken an extension of leave.

LONDON has had its trials enough during the year. And now we learn that the sole popular *Tamasha* of the great metropolis, the Lord Mayor's Show, was marred by incessant rain which considerably thinned the crowd of sightseers. The denizens of Cockaigne should take a leaf out of the book of the Hindoos, who have, as the saying goes, thirteen festivals in the twelve months.

THE Benighted is loyal to a fault. At Madras, they observed the 9th as a holiday, that being the Prince of Wales' birth-day. They thus keep up the memory of the visit to India of the Prince of Wales. The Benighted is also the beknighted—in the person of the bearer to the throne of Madras Jubilee loyalty. What is Madras going to do for His Royal Highness of Connaught, without whose active intercession the worthy Lawson would have gone without his expected reward?

A FURTHER use has been found of tobacco. The stems and waste of the plant are being used in the manufacture of paper, they being equal to the best linen rags and costing only £2 per ton while the rags cost £11. Good news, this! It will abate the infernal nuisance of rag collecting, baling, and shipping. At present, dirt of every kind, provided there is linen at bottom, is treasured up, handled and absorbed, to the injury of many and disgust of more. There are among us Rag Sahebs and Rag Baboos proud of their dirty lucre.

THE premier nobleman of Calcutta Babudom, who inherits a fortune built up in the profession of the law, at the bar and out of it, seems not

inappropriately destined to feed the courts of the land, of all kinds. Thus, Maharaja Jotindromohun Tagore figures in the Police Court as a complainant against an old personal servant of above thirty years' service for theft of a shawl. In searching the house of the man, the Police found some empty scent bottles for which he will be separately prosecuted. We hope the Maharaja will not have to repent of it. The Black Town magistrate has sent the old servant and the abetting barber to jail, each for 9 months.

ANOTHER chance windfall for a struggling world! A European Shao, who probably never did any good to himself or his neighbours, dies a philanthropist! Mr. Richard Berridge, a partner in the Meux Company of Brewers, has willed away £2,00,000 for advancement of education in Economic and Sanitary Sciences. We hope no anatomist will employ his resurrectionist to rob the carcass for examining the heart of Berridge. It would be awkward if death proved a protracted trance.

WORSE prospect for the already depressed Rupee! The *Times of India* has heard a whisper of the discovery of silver in Australia.

IT is interesting to learn that a Chinese squadron, under the command of Admiral Laug, is in Indian waters. Collectors of the Coromandel Districts and Port officers have been warned to give help in case it visited any port.

THERE will be a conference of the Bishops in India and Ceylon here on the 16th January 1888.

THE first section of the Indian Milland Railway has been completed to Jhansi.

THE Maharaja of Mysore has subscribed Rs. 1,000 and the Raja of Venkatagiri Rs. 600 towards the expenses of the third National Congress to be held at Madras during Christmas week.

A JANAI correspondent in the *Statesman* says :—

"Our society is making rapid strides in the path of progress and civilization. Female liberty and rights are on the ascendant. A mother-in-law in a family here hid quarrelled with her daughter-in-law, and either made use of improper language or assaulted her. The latter brought a criminal suit in a Serampore Magistrate's Court against the former. On her own admission the mother-in-law was fined Rs. 5."

For that matter, Janai has, we believe, always had the reputation of a go-ahead place. There, the ladies rule the roast, and the grey mare is usually the better horse. So far so good, or bad, or indifferent, as the case may be. But the thing is clearly going beyond the last borders of decency. Was there no influence at Janai to prevent the last and lowest scandal of respectable Hindu ladies going to court to complain of assault and battery? Is the house of Atmaram extinct? Is old Chunder Kanta dead? Where were the Mookerjees of sorts? Where the Banerjees?

THE Supreme Government have published a Resolution on the Surveys and estimates for a railway from Umballa to Kalka on the board gauge and from Kalka to Simla on two-feet gauge. The Government,



however, are not in a position to take up the works but are prepared to give them away to any private Company on the following terms:—

"I. To permit the construction of the Umballa-Kalka Railway on terms similar to those which have been arranged with the Tarakeshwar Railway Company, namely, that the Company make the line at their own expense, and that it be worked by the North-Western Railway, which will receive 1/5th net profits as remuneration, and also 5 per cent. on the value of rolling-stock supplied.

II. To permit the construction of the Kalka-Simla Railway on terms similar to those granted to the Bengal and North-Western Railway Company.

III. In the event of a Company offering to construct the Umballa-Kalka Railway, and no other Company simultaneously expressing a desire to undertake the Kalka-Simla Railway, the first named Company will receive, should they so desire, a preferential right for a term of 3 years to the concession of the Kalka-Simla Railway."

At a Hindu wedding in Cuddupah, a woman appears to have given the slip to her husband and eloped with another. Unfortunately, she was burdened with a child, so having gone some distance they threw it into a well. The Sessions Judge found both guilty and sentenced both to death. On appeal before the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Iyer, the woman's sentence was confirmed and the man's commuted to transportation for life.

THE 14th November has been fixed for the commencement of the trial at the Madras High Court Sessions of Ross, the Civilian Registrar of the same Court, for adultery with the wife of an unfortunate named Morgan. Mr. R. D. Shaw, the Crown Prosecutor, will prosecute, assisted by Messrs. W. S. Gantz and Eardley Norton, counsel for complainant, instructed by Champion and Short. The Hon'ble Spring Branson and Mr. Willie Grant, instructed by Barclay and Morgan, will defend. Application was made before the Chief Justice for Mr. Ross for a special jury. The Crown Prosecutor said it rested with the Court. The complainant's counsel objected, as the petition disclosed no ground for such a departure. The Chief said it lay with him to grant or reject the prayer, but he would look into some of the depositions.

THREE masters of vessels in a letter to the *Statesman* complain of the heavy charge for towing vessels through the Hooghly bridge. They admit the several advantages of this port in the shape of fresh water, fine dry weather and cheap docking and painting. The Port Commissioners have found their way in some instances to reduce their charges to disarm opposition to some of their favorite schemes, and we hope they will be able to effect reform in the present instance.

DR. BESNIER, at one of its recent meetings, read a paper on Leprosy at the French Academy of Medicine. He contended against the theory of leprosy being a microbial disease, affirming that it is propagated by contagion and by contagion alone. He argued the bacillus is not found in the soil or in the water of the regions where the malady prevails. It is, therefore, by its direct passage from one human organism to another that the disease which it causes is communicated and spread.

THE *Indian Mirror* notes:—

"A prominent example of the frivolous way in which our rich men generally squander their lacs is afforded by the purchase of a theatre for a lac of rupees by Babu Gopal Lal Seal of this city. In this theatre, it must be noticed, female characters are represented by women of ill-fame. Now, theatres containing courtezans in their staff are in every way calculated to lower the morals of the people. In fact, such theatres have proved to be the ruin of many an unwary and weak-minded young man. Babu Gopal Lal Seal is one of the great millionaires of the metropolis, and it is most disheartening that he should spend his money in works and schemes having a demoralizing influence on his countrymen, and not in those which may be expected to raise them as a nation. How immensely can men like Babu Gopal Lal Seal enable us to advance politically, intellectually, and morally, if they only know how to use their wealth aright."

The *Mirror* has taken kindly to Beer and Brandy, formerly interdicted in its columns, and may yet develop sympathy for the women of the native stage.

Seriously, we think the attack on the young Baboo improper and unreasonable, speaking moderately. Young men might do worse things than Babu Gopal Lal is doing. He is a decided advance upon the preceding generation of his house, and, instead of getting credit for it, he is gibbeted to the scorn of the world by scrupulous journalism. We believe he is a superior young man, and, if he do not waste his property, he is destined for good work as the patron of the drama.

THE Palestine Orthodox Society, in the course of their excavations in the ground belonging to Russia in Jerusalem, have come upon the remains of the ancient town-wall of that city and the position of the gates leading out of the town. These gates are nearest to Golgatha, and it is therefore asserted that Christ passed through them to the place of crucifixion.

ELECTRIC light is more cleanly than gas, inasmuch as it does not soil the room with grime deposits. But it promotes a different kind of cleanliness. It is being remarked at Washington that the electric lamp has a tendency to develop spiders' webs. The reason is stated to be that the light attracts flies and moths, and these, in their turn, draw the spiders.

MR. VICE-CONSUL WARBURTON, in his report on the trade of La Rochelle, says "very little wine is made from grapes now, most of what is sold as claret being manufactured from raisins and currants." The currants and raisins are steeped in water at a temperature of about 70 degrees, and a little red Spanish wine added to give color. The cost of production is given at from 5 to 6 pence per gallon. These clarets sell in England at 12 shillings a gallon. It is also pointed out that the currants and raisins are imported from London and the red wine is carried by British steamers to the Rochelle district.

It is reported from St. Petersburg that a law has been proposed excluding foreigners from service on the greater portion of the Russian railway system. Henceforth only orthodox Russian subjects will be employed on the strategical lines, the Poles, Jews and Germans being relegated to some of the less important ones. So it is not enough to be a Russian citizen, even a Russian by birth, nationality, and race; he must be a Greek Catholic into the bargain, before he could hope to earn his bread as a pointsman on most of the Russian railways.

AT the new Lord Mayor's Banquet at the Guildhall, on Wednesday the 9th, Lord Salisbury made a speech which is thus reported by Reuter:—

"His Lordship said that the settlement of the Afghan boundary question was satisfactory alike to England, to Russia, and to the Amir of Afghanistan. The surrender of Ayub Khan had removed a serious source of danger to the maintenance of peace. The settlement of the Suez Canal and New Hebrides questions was especially important, as removing a thorn from the sides of England and France. His Lordship declared that he knew of nothing to cause any uneasiness regarding the maintenance of European peace, beyond the fact of the keeping up of enormous armaments by the Powers. He believed that every ruler in the world was intensely anxious for peace, and that the only danger that peace would be broken arises from possible gusts of popular passion. England, on her part, adheres to her policy of maintaining peace, the treaties which are the present framework of Europe, and the independence of all free people. He believed that Austria and Italy, with whom the sympathies of England were deeply bound up, aimed at the same objects. The Government were more determined than ever to subordinate everything to enforcing the law in Ireland, and there had been a marked improvement in the condition of that country since the Coercion Act had been in operation, though the progress made had been necessarily slow."

With age, the Victorian Cecil is evidently acquiring faith in human nature.

WITH the return of Government to the capital, the last of Sir Alfred Lyall's, there was a fire at the Amahabad Secretariat, destroying records of various descriptions including those relating to the mutiny, and damaging the building. The Chief Secretary is said to be the principal sufferer. We read in a report sent to the *Statesman* by a friend:

"A Committee, consisting of Colonel Swetenham, Superintending Engineer, Major Palford, R. E., Personal Assistant to the Chief Engineer, and Mr. J. W. Alexander, C. E., on special duty here, are inquiring into the burning of the Secretariat Offices. No material facts bearing on the origin of the disaster have been brought to light. But it has been ascertained that the fire broke out in a room in the upper storey, where a mass of office boxes and records, lately arrived from Lucknow, were awaiting arrangement. They were piled in a heap on the floor, and it is supposed that a spark must have fallen upon them, causing them to ignite. But there is absolutely no evidence to show whether this was the result of accident or design. The fire was first discovered by the chowkeydar on duty between one and two o'clock on Sunday morning. He observed a bright light through the fan lights above one of the doors, and at once roused the jemadar of the Police guard. Mr. Edmonds, one of the superintendents, who happened to be sleeping in a tent in the compound, was awakened immediately afterwards, and he at once went for assistance to the Government Press in the adjoining compound. The alarm bell there was rung, and not long after, the soldiers and the Railway Fire Brigade with their engines arrived on the scene. A great deal of damage was done, as the soldiers

threw out of the burning building everything they could lay their hands on. Mr. Woodburn, the Chief Secretary, has been the principal sufferer in this respect, as all his household furniture, crockery, glass, and some valuable cases of pottery, were thrown out from upstairs, and destroyed by the fall. The damage done is estimated at Rs. 40,000 as a large part of the upper storey will have to be rebuilt, owing to the cracks which have appeared in the masonry since it began to cool down."

But how the household furniture, crockery, glass and pottery found their way to the Secretariat, requires clearing up.

THE Sultan of Zanzibar will visit Germany next year accompanied by Dr. Carl Peters, the astute representative of the German Association established there, who has got it some valuable concessions.

It is understood that the Secretary of State has approved of the scheme for the formation of an Indian "Intelligence Department," and that details are now being settled in this country.

THE British Consul at Jeddah reports that the Mecca pilgrimage has terminated without any outbreak of cholera or any other epidemic disease, and the public health is excellent.

A PROMISING young native barrister of the Western Presidency, who was somebody in Surat at any rate, Rao Sahab Dolat Rao Surbhai Desai, has just been cut off by consumption. An undergraduate of Bombay, after passing the "little go" he competed with success for the Gilchrist scholarship and went to England where he graduated at London and took the degree of L. L. B. Then he got to the bar there, and after seven years returned to his native country.

## Notes & Readerettes.

THE Saturnalia of the *Budmashes* is in full swing in Ireland. The Telegraph reports that a party of Moonlighters lately shot dead a farmer named Burke, near Tralee, in the very presence of the unfortunate man's family.

LONDON, at any rate, will now have peace. There will, henceforth, be no more demonstrations in Trafalgar Square. With the concurrence of Mr. Mathews, Home Secretary, Sir Charles Warren has proclaimed the meetings of the unemployed. Now that Government has taken decisive action and presented a bold front, the agitators will find their occupation gone. The people will show an earnest disposition to go to work, or, that failing, to the workhouse.

INFORMATION has been received by telegraph that the Italian General Sanmazzano, accompanied by his staff, has reached Massowah.

It would seem that the British mission to Abyssinia has received a check on the way:—

"News has been received here (Aden) that the servants attached to the expedition to the Negus, under Mr. Portal, deserted the caravan which had to return to Monkullo after suffering a march of fifty miles without water. After some delay, Mr. Portal made another start for the court of King John. The letter from the Queen, of which Mr. Portal is the bearer, says, in response to King John's request, that England should mediate with Italy, and that diplomatic intervention by the English Government is impossible until reparation has been given to Italian honor, by the cession of the territory in dispute, without it being necessary to have recourse to hostilities."

WE may mention here that the Italian Expedition introduces a distinct novelty in warfare:—

"Among the stores which are being shipped at Naples for use in the expedition against Abyssinia is an ironclad wall, or movable ironclad tower, which has been built at the military steel factory of Terni. This wall may be extended over a length of 400 metres, and has three rows of loopholes. In case of a sudden attack the wall may be rolled up into a tower, inside of which a number of troops can find shelter. Two hundred camels are required to carry the wall, which is in reality a movable fortress."

A TELEGRAM from Hyderabad says that the Nizam has suspended, for three months, a native newspaper published at Hyderabad that had unfavourably criticised his Highness's offer of sixty lakhs to the Government of India.

THE Gaekwar of Baroda, having done the Continent, has gone over to England, and is now starring it at Brighton. We wonder what the young Oriental Prince thinks of the British Peris careering in the water in the glory of uncovered persons to the sound of the music. We hope the Gaekwar keeps a diary and does not fill it only with useful knowledge.

SEVEN hundred and nineteen head of cattle died of snake-bites in Madras alone, during the last year. That makes it the duty of the Agricultural Department, at any rate, to make an earnest effort to extirpate the deadly reptiles.

WE read:—

"*Truth*, of London, has heard that the late ex-Nawab of Oudh was a poet whose renown extended from the Himalaya to Cape Comorin."

But who was the ex-Nawab? Has *Truth* derived his information from a Calcutta Baboo or, for that matter, Britisher of the Ditch?

THE brother of the all powerful Police Moonshee of Kurrachee, who was caught attempting to travel in a female compartment in a railway train, in a female dress, at the city station, Sind, has been convicted and fined Rs. 50 by the City Magistrate.

THE mercantile returns of Bombay for the last year, do not favour the pessimists' forebodings of the effects of the silver depreciation, on commerce of all kinds. On the whole commercial operations, inward and outward, of the port, there was appreciable progress. The total of the external commerce of Bombay in 1886-87—81½ crores—was greater than that of the year before by 1½ crores. Deducting the trade with other Indian ports, British and other, what remains as the true foreign commerce of the capital British Port of Western India, exhibits too the same advance. And the peculiarity of this expansion of the port's seaborne trade with foreign nations, still farther clinches the argument against croaking over the growing disaster to commerce from degradation of the rupee. For the year's increase of commerce was not increase all round—in imports as well as exports. No! improvement was confined to the outward trade; none was visible in the inward. There was a considerable increase in exports, but, instead of a similar increase of imports, there was a corresponding decrease.

THE P. and O. Company have commemorated the Jubilee in a professional way, by launching a new steamer of superior calibre and arrangements and greater speed than any existing vessel, christened *Victoria*. Her debut will be memorable: as yet great Eastern magnates but seldom take passage on board ships on the long voyage, and Salar Jung II. returned to India by the *Victoria* on her first trip.

On her arrival in Bombay harbour, the Company, by way of once of courtesy to the public and of advertisement for their business, gave a party on board her. This was not a complete *divertissement*, being broken into two on different dates. The inevitable occurred.

"As soon as it was known that natives and Europeans were to be entertained on different dates and placed on different footings, a great many leading native gentlemen, after having accepted the invitation, did not attend on board."

IT is again in contemplation to carry the office of the Commissary-General of the Western Presidency to Poona. Originally located in Bombay, it was moved to Poona; it was, however, brought back to Bombay. There it was not permitted to remain, for it was once more removed to Poona,—to again return to Bombay. So it has all its life been kicked from pillar to post between these cities! But the Sisyphus of Indian Administration is to have no rest. The stone, lifted up the steep mountain by so much weary toil must go down the side once more, nay, again and again. The next location of the department at Poona is but a question of time.

Surely, there could not be a better illustration of fickle, hare-brained, irresponsible administration.

THE schoolmaster having long been abroad and not idle, the 'ologist is now to the fore. But there is a season and a place for everything. At any rate, it is too much of a good thing, before a country has been well brought under control, to send into it a lot of mercenaries to collect butterflies, hunt after cairns, pick up petrified bones, or simply gaze at the stars. Thus, every politician knows that our position in the recent acquisitions in Burma is still uncertain, our grasp of the

country far from firm. How preposterous, under the circumstances, therefore, that that country should so early be regarded as an appendage of European Science. It is difficult for sober people, to say nothing of barbarous Orientals, to realise what they are told, namely, that already three fully equipped meteorological observatories have been established in Upper Burmah, viz., at Mandalay, Bhamo, and Kendat, and rainfall registers are being received in addition from ten other stations. What next? and next? Have they sent to Europe for a Professor of Panthay? Surely, all honest men must concede that, in the interest of the country, there ought to be some open check on the power of the Executive to spend the revenues. Where can we find that check except in the privilege of interpellation in the Chamber?

THERE is nothing so successful as success. Providence is on the side of great generals, strong battalions, and rifled cannon. Even the chapter of accidents is loyal to those in possession. Thus, a decisive argument in favour of what has been termed the annual Exodus to the Hills of the several Governments of India, has turned up in the most unexpected quarter.

A German, W. Hampel, has been inquiring into the quantity of oxygen in the air on different days at various places. By special arrangements, samples of air were collected for him from the 1st April to the 16th May 1886 at Dresden, Bonn, Cleveland, (N. America) Para, and Tromsø in Norway. The whole were then subjected to analysis, shewing an average of 20.93, and a distinct, if not considerable, variation, going up to 21.00 on the 22nd April in Tromsø, and reaching down 20.86 on the 26th April at Para. At Bonn and Para, the average of oxygen, during the month and a half's observation, was 20.92. At both Dresden and Cleveland it was 20.93, at Tromsø 20.95. Thus the North has the advantage in every respect. The Almighty favours the North. Oxygen is life, as the advertising secret-drugman does not weary of reminding us. It is certainly the prime essential of healthy existence. These experiments prove that the Northern parts of the globe are the most abundantly supplied with this vital element.

No wonder that our Gods lived in the North, on the tops of Mount Kailas—on the peak of Dwalagiri. There are, to be sure, gods and gods. But certainly it is by a sort of godish, if not quite divine, instinct, that our modern British godships affect the heights of Simla and Darjeeling and Co. y.

WE read:—

"The *Indo-European Correspondence* tells the following:—We were told a good joke by an Irishman last week. During a voyage at sea he was, taking dinner on Good Friday with the officers on board and politely refusing roast beef, he had helped himself to some fish. Thereupon came a butler with some pretensions to wit, and who was on that account a general favourite, and 'May I offer you some sauce?' he said 'but I must tell you beforehand that there is butter in it.'

'Certainly' said Paddy, and he helped himself forthwith.

'How is it then, Sir?' said the saucy butler, 'that you have no scruples against eating of the substance of the cow, and you have against eating the cow? One would think it absurd.'

'Not a bit,' replied Paddy as he went on.

'Why! I should like to hear the reason why,' insisted the butler, who saw evidently that the interest of the gallery was roused, and who thought of making game of the Hibernian.

'Faith!' said Paddy looking up to him with a merry twinkle in his eye, 'It's no more absurd for me to eat of the substance of the cow and not to eat the cow, than it was for you to eat of the substance of your mother and not to eat your mother.'

An immense outburst of laughter welcomed the unexpected reply, and the saucy butler was for rest of the dinner extinguished."

In the simplicity of his genius, Paddy threw out a brilliant suggestion. It has certainly a wider application than ever he dreamed of. He probably does not know the difference between vegetarianism in the East and vegetarianism in the West. The difference lies in the Indian Vaishnavas revelling in milk in its varied forms, at the same time that they shun contact with any kind or form of meat, while the European party who preach up fruits and farinacea as the proper food of man, object to milk as meat in solution. The pretensions of the latter are very well rebuked by Paddy, whose reply is the Vaishnavas' argument. It exposes the folly of their fanaticism. You cannot do without milk, however wise or scrupulous you may pretend to be. It is the law of nature. You begin the world with milk. But that is no reason for feeding upon animals as men do, by killing. There! it is killing for a purpose that is—murder.

THE Emperor William's recent visit to Steflin, has revived a good story. He visited the place during his Regency in 1861, when his brother, King Frederic William IV., was incapacitated for public life. There was the usual public dinner in his honour, which His Royal Highness attended. The chief of the local administration, in proposing the Regent's health, waxed nervous and gave such unmistakable signs of "funk" that his friends had cause to be alarmed at where he would land. When he came to "And when your Royal Highness comes to us, as King"—he was hurriedly interrupted by his neighbours, who nudged him, and whispered, "For Heaven's sake, be careful!" This completed the unfortunate speaker's ruin. He suddenly stopped short, and then, more confused than ever, continued—"Which God forbid!"

That reminds us of Lord Gough's speech at the public dinner to the officers returned from Dalhousie's victorious Burman War, which the gallant Commander-in-Chief with unwitting abruptness ended with a thundering *Jao Soor!* though the cause of the sinking is different in the two cases.

WITH many signs of the antipuritan spirit, are the British going to show their loyalty to their stern old forefathers, by resuming only the principles of their Nomenclology? Kingsley notwithstanding, the Cromwellians were an unamiable repulsive set. As if to match their ugly "round" pates, they burdened themselves with enormous preposterous names. Their designations looked more like sentences. The Scriptures were freely laid under contribution, but their own peculiar humour supplied the characteristic material. In those days, good John Bright would have been Peace-at-any-price Bright. But this is a joke before names covering full ethical phrases and Biblical sentiments. It would not have been strange to come across God's-own-devoted-servant Jack, or Praise-God-and-damn-the-devil Brown, or Tell-the-truth-and-shame-the-Devil-at-all-times Jones. The Protector would have been better pleased with his parents and god-father, had they called him Righteousness-Exalteth-a-Nation, or Vengeance-is-mine-saith-the-Lord. As if to illustrate the saying, Nothing like leather, a leather seller in Fleet Street had the name of Praise-God Barebones. This fellow outheroed his own godfather. For, he gave his son—whom he meant for a liberal profession—a Christian name at which Heathen potentates might gape in astonishment, baptising him under the appellation of If-Jesus-Christ-had-not-died-for-thee-thou-hadst-been-doomed Barebones.

A child in Somersetshire has been recently christened Victoria Jubilee Coronation.

MR. STEAD has taken the mask off many respectabilities and generally exposed the pretensions of the British Upper Ten. Blue Aristocracy is not a whit superior to Bloated Plutocracy in general. The Earl of Ailesbury has been found out and warned off the British course. It is said that this means social ostracism. We can scarcely credit this; it may be so for a time. The occasion is being taken advantage of for an attack on the Upper Chamber. There is no lack of materials; the framer of the indictment is embarrassed by the mass of accumulated scandal. As before, so in our purer days, there are not only too many black sheep of sorts, but even black legs in the privileged order and its connections. The mere fox-hunting lords and lordlings are contemptible enough. The Windhams and Carringtons, who drive public conveyances on the highway, are objects of pity, being pitiable indeed. But what shall we say of sharp practitioners like the Ailesburys!

An English Sunday paper, after some flings at the Duke of Marlborough and the late Lord Aylesford, adds:—

"Then there was the lord who was never sober from the moment he came of age, and who, after embarrassing his estate very considerably (though it brought in something over £120,000 a year when he came into it and there was nearly a million of accumulations), died before he was 27, under most singular circumstances. Some say he died in a four-wheeled cab, into which he was thrust by a woman he had enriched, directly it was seen he was in danger. She was not going to have a nasty corpse in her house—not if she knew it. Others say he succeeded in getting home, but died on the doorstep; while still others aver that the cabman turned him out on the way, and he died in the gutter. Anyway, he is dead, and the young man who succeeded him is likely, by some of his peculiarities, to far surpass his near relative's record. He has already figured in one or two of Her Majesty's courts under circumstances which might have visited him with the censure of the press, if he had not been so very privileged a person. The woman to whom I have referred in passing is the one who was taken

down to his ancestral hall by a great peer, with a name illustrious in the history of England, and seated at the same table with his wife and daughters. There is a courtesy earl in the south of the country, who will in due course be a marquis, who has to be strapped down in his bed of nights, and is never left by himself. This some-day-to-be hereditary legislator is now and again allowed to hunt the fox or the hare, of the stage, but in the field he is always accompanied by four keepers all better mounted than he is himself, all good horsemen, and all ready to prevent his getting into mischief, or making too awful an exhibition of himself. I would rather be he, though he is not allowed to conduct the most private and personal of his acts and duties unless somebody is with him, than I would be another courtesy earl—the son of one of our semiroyal dukes this time—who, though not considered mad, must often think himself so. This noble youth married a merry lady, who, being merry and light withal, left him in due course, and is now living *par amours* with a well-known member of the betting ring. Owing to the peculiar constitution of our courts, neither the lord nor his lady can get divorced, and so a snit for dissolution of marriage on the part of the Earl of E—, whose ground was that the lady had been married before he married her, and was not a widow at the time, failed signally."

After such an account, how ineffably fatuitous appears Lord John Manners' fervid burst of "Young Englandism."

THEY are *fétting* out Sir Alfred Lyall in the North West. There was a farewell ball on Friday the 4th by the civil officers of Oudh. All the Commissioners and Judges and most of the Deputy Commissioners were present. They danced the farewell waltz till 4 in the morning, as if there would be no more cakes and ale and merriment after the setting of the Lyall sun. Next day, Sir Alfred held a reception in the Chattermanzil to receive addresses from Nawab Mirza Mahdi Ali Khan, on behalf of the ex-royal family of Oudh, from Rana Sir Shanker Baksh Singh, on behalf of the Taluqdars, and from the Lucknow Municipality, the Jalsa-i-Tazib, the Rifah-i-Am, and the Lucknow Institute. The *fête* of the Taluqdars, for which they had been preparing for sometime, came off on Monday the 7th in the Kaiser Bag. Again Rana Sir Shanker fired a farewell address, by way of appropriate introduction to the display of rockets and fire-balloons which followed, and then Sir Alfred turned his back sorrowfully on the Baronial—Envelope, and left for Benares, which was reached the next day the 8th. At the railway platform, Raja Shiva Prasad attacked him with a Municipal parchment of good things.

A FEW months back, *Native Opinion* of Bombay contained an article on the utility of trees. It was rather a queer place for such a production to appear in, and we confess we were not without our speculations. It had all the appearance of a contribution from some expert in Europe. Or it was the outcome of the studies of a student of science in India. Be that as it may, it was a weighty article embodying the most advanced knowledge of the day and the most enlightened conceptions. We had intended to reproduce it, but unfortunately lost sight of it during the holidays. We were recently reminded of it by a paragraph in the same journal headed PLAGIARISM to the following effect, quoting from memory, that is to say—

"We are pleased—says *Native Opinion*—to see our article on the utility of trees reprinted in the——— but we would have been still more pleased had the source of the article been acknowledged.

Nothing could be more reasonable. Our contemporary may well complain that a remarkable article, the like whereof does not often appear in the newspaper press, should be reproduced by another, without even the courtesy of a paltry acknowledgment.

The ways of the generality of the Indian Press are the despair of those unfortunate journalists who work honestly to fill their columns. The *Pioneer* and the *Civil and Military Gazette* seem to be regarded as fair game by respectable papers of the highest pretensions. Their news, procured at no small cost, and their paragraphs by well-paid hands, are so daily and hourly purloined. Our little paper itself is not spared, either by friend or foe. In a single issue of a contemporary, we find no less than four of our paragraphs of the same day "conveyed" bodily, though somewhat marred in the operation by the devils. Like our brother of Bombay *Native Opinion*, we too should be content if only our brethren of the quill, or their knights of the scissors, carried their appreciation a little farther and mentioned the sources of their pleasure and edification. Perhaps, these "eminent conveyancers" take us to be one of themselves. Let us, therefore, once for all, assure them that we are not; we have no business at all in that line, whether in an "eminent" or an insignificant way. Our contents are all our own. Our entire paper is original, in the sense in which such a term may properly be applied to the different matters that find place in a newspaper. It is to mark this peculiarity that we

have changed the title of the first department of our paper from "The Week" to "News and Comments." Nevertheless, we see there is an impression in some quarters—derived doubtless from the general practice—that this part of the paper at any rate is made up of mere extracts from other sources. It is not; being our own like the remainder. That is, where extracts are made they are indicated as such; where the source of any quotation may be ascertained it is mentioned, though, in the confusion of the general practice, this is not always practicable. In a few cases only, are they allowed to stand by themselves; otherwise, there is always something distinctly added, in the way of information or thought. The matters are not taken at random from other papers but carefully selected, and the extracts are reduced by rejection of repetitions and inconsequential particulars, only the pith being retained. In many cases, the purport is rewritten by us; the object being to make a small space contain the largest amount of "news and comment." And the same rule is observed throughout. Subjects which are seized with avidity for long-winded "leaders" in other quarters, are often disposed of in paragraphs. For news we depend upon our contemporaries, of course, yet we are able occasionally to contribute to the general stock. As a weekly paper and a native one, however, we never get credit for it; hence we have almost given up the hunt. Nevertheless, we think we do some service by sifting the supplies of our brethren of the morning press. All sorts of rumours and "gup" and interested accounts get into the papers—these we steadily refuse to circulate. Hence our paper may seem deficient in this particular. With respect to "Correspondence," we, as a rule, never publish what has once appeared in any other paper. We are diminutive in size, and feeble enough, but we are ourself—in matter and manner, in form and spirit. For, our views also are ours. This is more than can be said of many papers. To those who are not in the secret, the unanimity of the Native Press must be simply most marvellous.

LAST week, reproaching the Cuddapah vakils for their very unlawful conduct in not defending an accused prosecuted by the District Judge, we alluded, in passing, to the deterioration of the bench and bar nearer home. We could do no more. The subject is delicate and does not admit of coarser, or more pointed or specific, treatment. Yet, the subject is of vital importance and, if not noticed at all, or noticed with false delicacy or disingenuous ingenuity, the gravest interests of the public might suffer. It was our earnest conviction to that effect, and no flippant desire for notoriety or "sensation," that prompted us. As usual, the remark did not escape the lynx eye of the Father of the Bengal Press.

The *Indian Daily News* of Friday says:—

"There is often something sterling in the comments of our native contemporary, and when we find anything pertaining to the nature of censure, we do not necessarily place it to the account of antagonism. There is such a spirit of loyalty and good sense in the editor's remarks as a rule, that it is well to notice them, whatever may be thought of the rabid portion of native journals. It is not very flattering to be told of the decadence of the *morale* of both bench and bar in India, even though it be qualified by the admission that it is exceptional and temporary. It would be interesting to inquire into the causes of this declension. There is no doubt that the two act and react upon each other. One thing may be that there has seemed a disposition of late years to interfere with the independence and high character of the High Court. It is not desirable that this feeling should be encouraged, for if there is even a suspicion that the Court will be degraded, there will be no inducement for judges to seek to adorn the bench or for able barristers to seek either wealth or reputation by practising at the bar. And the influence extends beyond the Courts of the Presidency. We are told that native lawyers and judges take their examples from these Courts and if they deteriorate, the influence is sure to be felt throughout the whole judicial administration. We have heard frequent remarks of late about cases in the High Court which we would have preferred not to hear, and to which we should hesitate to give definite expression without evidence which could be substantiated. We can only trust with our native contemporary, that whatever of weakness or defects there may be in the High Courts, they are exceptional and temporary."

Hope is most hopeful, said we, noticing the birth of our contemporary. The fond anticipation has not been belied. The new paper has an interesting individuality. It is unambitious and thoroughly practical. It gives a variety of readable matter and once a month a good cartoon grave or gay. A paper for the million as it professes to be, it eschews the rugged and disputed paths of the *haute politique* to deal with matter immediately affecting the interests of its constituents. These belong to the poorer classes of our English-reading population, consisting for the most part, of clerks and assistants in Government as well as in quasi-public and private employ. It is now dealing with the internu-

management and discipline of one of the great Government railways and exposing the cruelty which is victimising the voiceless poor, alike subjects and servants of the Queen, by dozens. Under the name of economy and efficiency, men who have plied their quills for years with credit, are unceremoniously sent adrift, to make room for newer favorites no better than they should be. Any pretext is good enough to these little men dressed in brief authority for kicking Bengalee *kerani* out of his stool and post. And, thus, even pensionable public servants have been ruined.

The office has a European figure head, of course, but the real ship-master and master of the situation—and situations, is a Punjabi glorying in an unpronounceable alliterative name. He is said to be a plausible unctious little man, but as precious a petty tyrant as ever was permitted to try the patience of a hardworking class of public servants.

If we have Bhoses in our community, we have Pramanicks also, thank God! or our society would have been miserable indeed. We have just heard of a splendid act of liberality, in the cause of learning, of our Bengali Hatem Baboo Kali Kristo Pramanick, in the shape of a donation to the Building Fund of the excellent institution founded thirty years ago by that devoted educationist, now no more, Babu Thakooradas Chuckerbutty—the Calcutta Training Academy. Particulars next time.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1887.

### THE NEWEST DISCOVERY.

It is rare to find even in the pages of the *Pioneer* a thicklier set of fallacies and absurd inventions than those which encumber the columns of a recent issue thereof, treating of *The New Caste*, which the terrified imagination of the conductors of that journal has conjured up into existence. This new caste is composed, according to our contemporary, of "the Hindus who have received an English education in our schools. \* \* \* \* \* They pursue allied occupations, that is to say, public or private service in posts where a knowledge of English is required. Literature and the Bar; they have adopted a novel diet, by rejecting or relaxing the stringent rules of their fathers in this curious matter of Hindu observance; they are distinguished by a peculiar dress; they are united by common sentiments as to religion, very different from those of the uninstructed; and they associate exclusively with each other. What more is required to constitute a new caste?" What indeed?

To begin with, it is quite wrong to say that the Hindus, educated in English, pursue allied occupations. "Public or private service in posts where a knowledge of English is required," is in itself a list wide enough to cover a vast field of disallied occupations. It would be an abuse of language to say, for instance, that a Minister of a Native State, a High Court Judge, a District Magistrate, a Civil Surgeon, an Executive Engineer, an Assistant Comptroller-General, an Assistant to a Political Agent, a Post Master General, an Inspector of Schools, a College Principal, a District Superintendent of Police, a Zemindari Manager, and a Secretary to a political Association, are *all* persons of allied pursuits. One might as well say that all men who walked on two legs, were allied to each other in occupation. While, therefore, the classification is, in one sense, too general, it is, in another sense, too limited, for there are many persons pursuing similar occupations without a knowledge of English, with whom many of the above class have every feeling of channishness. The District Superintendent of Police, for example, would

have more fellow-feeling in the professional sense for his Boetian constable than for the Tagore Law Professor,—the Inspector of Schools for the lowliest primary school *guru* in his circle than for the Superintendent of Vaccination; and so on. If such be the mutual dissimilarity of the "services," how much is it heightened by throwing in "Literature and the Bar" into the hodge-podge! So much for the illusion of allied occupations.

Nor is there more truth in the picture of the uniformity of a novel diet for all the Hindus educated in our schools. The food of every climate has been the outcome of national experience, and it would not be safe to discard the same for any foreign model. The first generation of natives, imbued with the destructive influences of an irreligious education, evinced a strong leaning for beef-steak and brandy, but, with increasing years and numbers, there has been a remarkable return to sobriety. The staple food and drink of the vast majority of the Hindus, educated in English at Indian schools, are the same as those of other Hindus of their Province; and, consequently, there is as much variance between the diet of educated Hindus of different Provinces as in the case of uneducated classes of the respective territories. Upon a comprehensive view, setting apart individual fancies, it will be manifest that the class of diet does not depend upon the education or ignorance of the consumer, but upon his means of life and the current Hindu *menu* of the locality.

But, by all means, the most farcical remark is the one that the educated Hindus are distinguished by a peculiar dress. Why, the very reverse has been the subject of much patriotic lamentation from time to time. A great portion of those who have crossed the *Kalapani*, do indeed affect European costume, but they are but a handful when compared with the hundreds and thousands who receive some sort of English education in our Indian schools. There is more discipline in this respect in other parts of India. Generally, the educated native sticks to his provincial costume, except so far as the behests of superior authority may compel or encourage a departure. In Bengal, there is greater license in the matter of dress, but this only leads to multiplication of types. We are half tempted to send a copy of the Calcutta Congress photograph to our contemporary, whence ocular evidence could be derived as to the extreme diversity of styles of dress prevailing at the present day amongst the educated Hindus. A social gathering of the educated Hindus in Bengal, would furnish as much diversity of dress as a Fancy Dress ball, and, although in other provinces, there is more of internal uniformity, yet the vast mass of educated Hindus stick to the style of dress which is the current one for respectable people, irrespective of linguistic qualifications. There is no style of dress which could be described as the common property of educated Hindus throughout India.

Then, as to the "common sentiments as to religion, very different from those of the uninstructed," these again are as much imaginary as the other resemblances fancied to exist. It is quite true that the educated Hindus have not the same actual *cult* as the mass of their countrymen, but, in the educated community itself, there is as little uniformity of doctrine. The Hindu pioneers of English education, mostly under missionary influences, started with a strong leaning towards Christianity, but that stage is now passed, and there is hardly any shade of



theistic or atheistic belief, positive or negative, which has not its disciple amongst the educated Hindus. Nevertheless, the educated Hindu, worthy of his name, has the broadest tolerance for the faiths of his more ignorant countrymen. The phenomenon is not new to the country. There has always existed a body of esoteric doctrines which has satisfied the moral and intellectual aspirations of the better cultured classes in the community, who were not satisfied with the material worship of the masses. Such esoteric doctrines, however, are not the monopoly of the Hindus who have received an English education. Furthermore, we seem to be the contemporary spectators of the throes of a vast religious revival in Hinduism, of an earnest endeavour to purify the indigenous religion of the country upon which is moving numbers of men untingered with English education.

We are not aware of the alleged exclusiveness of the English educated Hindu in associating with one another. Our observation, over a pretty large field, gives very different results. In all national festivals, in all domestic festivities, on all public occasions of rejoicing, the Hindus freely mix amongst themselves, without any check imposed by linguistic attainments; and we may even go further and say, that Hindus and Mahomedans equally mix together in social intercourse, without any English watchword for segregation.

The only real common tie between educated Hindus throughout India, at the present moment, is one of common political opinions. That is the widest platform upon which they can meet, although there is no doubt that continued intercourse on that platform will naturally lead in the future to better cohesion in many other matters.

And, supposing that the allegations were all true, cannot the same style of argument be used to set aside the verdict of the educated community in every country? A caste, which is yearly being increased by thousands of recruits drawn indiscriminately from every other caste, must, from its very constitution, tend more and more towards catholicity and representativeness. Time was, when the wrath of Anglo-India centered upon the Brahmans as the source of all evil, and in the Western Presidency a regular crusade was preached against them. The Brahmans were the most intellectual class of the Hindus and the most successful pioneers in the acquisition of English education and the assertion of English rights. Consequently, with a certain class of writers, they were the incarnations of evil. As other Hindu castes imbibed English education and its levelling ideas, they were found to be as bad as the Brahmans, and the same class of writers are now coming forward to give the whole lot of educated Hindus in India the bad name which was at first reserved for the Poona Brahman and the Bengali Baboo. Although our Mahomedan brethren, on the principle of *divide et impera*, are now being patted on the back as against the naughty Hindus, we have no doubt that when the number of English educated Mahomedans becomes large enough to exceed the number of the loaves and fishes which Anglo-India is prepared to share with them, and when consequently the Mahomedan grows as clamorous and unfettered as the Hindu, the circle of abuse will be still further enlarged, so as to include all educated Indians, irrespective of their religion.

## IS IT RELIGION OR SUPERSTITION?

### • II.

If every thinking man is obliged to admit, after a survey of the social strata, of which he himself forms a unit, that the religious belief of most men is founded on a basis of fear; hence it ought more correctly to be called superstition instead of faith, and that while it partakes of this character it is valueless in the sight of God: "for without faith it is impossible to please God." And the very essence of faith is the belief that there is a God and that He is the rewarder of those that seek Him diligently. To seek God we must know something of His character. We are told authoritatively that God is love. If God is love, then all who draw nigh to Him, must draw near in a spirit of love; a spirit of confidence; love must be the source and promptings of all our actions; of all our works Godward. Though this truth is as clear as sunlight, yet how impossible it is to find words to convey it in all its clearness, to the minds of men whose actions Godward are prompted by a slavish fear. One feels the power of superstition when one attempts to do so, notwithstanding that the statements set forth may be full of wisdom and logical correctness. The hearers fall back on tradition; it must be so; our fathers thought it so. The words of the prophet of old recur to mind, "turn ye, turn ye," "why will ye die." Why, "seek the living among the dead." The way of life has no darkness in it, and it is darkness that begets fear. Ye who desire life, eternal life, seek God according to His commandments, cast from you the teachings of men when they oppose the teachings of God! Why reverence olden things? Will tradition save you? Judge ye as reasonable men. Probe to the core the sources of your belief; the motives of your actions; and oh be sincere and honest in your summing up!

If this is true regarding most men who believe in and acknowledge a God, is there not folly in the attempt to stem the rising tide of disbelief by a crusade of argument in defence or support of particular forms of belief which seem to be assailed? When men asked the Master for a sign in proof of the verity of His doctrines and in attestation of His Divinity, He refused to comply with the demand on Him. It was of a piece with the taunting and tempting cry of Satan, "If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread;" "if thou be the Son of God cast thyself down." These were perfectly reasonable appeals; they were logical arguments in favour of proof. It would not have advantaged the cause of Christianity if Christ had accepted the challenge of the Enemy of Souls; and it does not advantage the cause of Christianity to-day, when the preachers or teachers of the Faith undertake to supply proof of the truth of the doctrines they seek to promulgate. It will be alleged in answer to this reasoning that, if some endeavour were not made to defend the Faith, it would be beaten down and overwhelmed. No doubt Satan argued that the refusal to comply with his demand for proof was in fact a disproof. Nevertheless, the arch-tempter knew better, and he actually proposed the appeal as a snare. We believe the present demand for proofs is a snare, and we regret to find that some good and true champions of the Faith are falling into it. Though one went to them from the dead they would not believe. Though the most conclusive evidence were offered of the truth of Christianity, there would not be one more Christian.

Disciples are not made by argument; they are attracted by love. And this is why superstition—which is fear disguised—stands in the way of progress in truth, and constitutes an obstacle. Superstition is based on fear; and where there is fear there cannot be love, for perfect love casteth out fear.

Depend upon it, a superstitious reverence for the Unseen and for the subject-matter of religion is detrimental to the cause of truth. People are not to be frightened into religion any more than they are to be frightened into being moral. The doctrine that wins and consoles is more powerful than that which coerces or commands. "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest"—this is the genius of the religion that draws men and makes disciples of them. "The devils believe and tremble," but neither their believing nor their trembling is of any avail. Man is to be won back to allegiance to his Maker, not driven back. The angel with the flaming sword was placed at the gate of paradise to keep Adam out of the garden, not to guide him back to happiness. It is the yearning love of the shepherd who leaves His flock to go out into the wilderness to save one poor wanderer which constrains and saves. Superstition is the homage of terror; true religion is the tribute of love and loyalty, and has nothing in common with a sense of fear. We judge this an opportune moment to speak out on the cognate subjects of superstition and sentiment. We have not sought to enforce any special views or to denounce any. Our purpose has been to try to convince those who so far accept our counsel as to be influenced by it of the all important need of honesty. If we have condemned any, our aim has been to impress more forcibly on teachers, preachers, parents, husbands, wives, yea, on all men and women, whatever their position or relationships may be, the vital importance attached to truth and truthfulness in the heart. We embrace the opportunity offered by the discussion of this subject of superstition to draw together the lines of a policy which has for its purpose to make religion a matter of fact for the young and the busy in life. We want men and women to be in earnest and less sentimental on this subject—to lay aside the tricks and mannerisms of conventional thought, and to bring commonsense to bear on a class of subjects which constitute the religion of common life. Sunday religion, church and chapel religion, professional religion, sentimental religion, are of no avail. If a man would be truly religious, he must be true first and religious afterwards. It seems to us that superstition is the bane of honesty of thought and in relation to this important subject throughout its various phases. "Ye are too superstitious" was the rebuke of the Apostle of the Gentiles to those who erred in being overmuch anxious about the grasp of their faith. Those to whom he spoke seemed to be desirous of discovering, if possible, more gods and subjects of belief. They were not satisfied with the complexity of the religion which a relatively high degree of culture had developed in their midst. Superstition is the bane and spiritual vice of this day, as it was of that. Let superstition die and commonsense prevail, is our hearty prayer.

L.

## Public Paper.

### THE UTTARPARA ASSAULT CASE.

*On Complaint of Sarat Chunder Chatterji.*

The complainant is the Municipal overseer of Uttarpara. The accused is a son of Raja Peary Mohan Mookerji and a grandson

of Baboo Joy Kissen Mookerji. The facts alleged are that accused assaulted complainant with a light walking stick on the evening of the 3rd October. The motive that the parties are on opposite sides in the notorious factions of Uttarpara, and specially that on that day complainant had made a complaint at the *thana* against accused for trying to ride him down. Two witnesses support complainant as to the assault. There is really no discrepancy of the least importance in their evidence. The last was a young boy of very respectable family and I think ingenious. Two witnesses called by complainant, both men of some position, one doubly related to accused, deny knowing anything of the matter. Accused denies the whole matter *in toto* and produces witnesses not exactly to an *alibi*, but rather to the fact that nothing of the sort took place, as it is admitted that he passed close by the alleged place of occurrence. The first of them, Chandra Kumar Mookharji is a man of some position being a qualified medical practitioner. He is also a man whose demeanour is not calculated to inspire confidence, the quarrelsome defiant way in which every answer was brought and the constant attempt to fix a quarrel on his cross-examiner are not facts in his favor. This witness swears that he never lost sight of accused all afternoon and this would if believed completely dispose of the charge. The next witness is Nibaran Chandra Mandal, a goldsmith to whose shop complainant was said to have gone immediately before the occurrence. He deines that complainant went, says the ornaments in question were returned before. This man however is a small man and doubly a tenant of Baboo Joy Kissen's branch of the family and there is the admission that complainant had had ornaments making there. The next witness is the assistant Librarian who says accused came there at 5-30. This is just before the assault was alleged (5-30 to 5-45) and the evidence, I think, would amount to nothing were it not also the case that the witness is practically a servant of Joy Kissen Baboo's and that his brother's house is mortgaged to Baboo Joy Kissen for Rs. 1,100. One point in evidence remains to be mentioned, a complaint to the police next day made by complainant. This was put in and admitted. He says the time there written 6-30 P. M., was a mistake of the police. It may or may not be. I fancy the whole body of witnesses are much less sure about time than they assert themselves.

On the whole case I cannot believe it is false. It was fairly brought forward by complainant and promptly complained of at the *thanna*. I do not think that the witnesses who have been summoned and called and have not borne evidence in his favour are to be counted against him. The account of the assault given by three persons is clear, and I believe true. I convict the accused under Sec. 352 I. P. C. and sentence him to a fine of Rs. 51 fifty-one only and costs Rs. 3 to complainant.

(Sd.) F. W. DUKE,

*Offg. Joint-Magistrate.*

The 28th October 1887.

## MONGHYR.

*Jamalsore, November 8, 1887.*

The Rev. P. M. Rudra, a missionary attached to Kissenagore, Bengal, was here the other day, and delivered an address in English in the native Institute, on the subject of "Secrets of Human Life." His address, which was written, was concise and full of matter so far as Christianity and its principles are concerned. He dwelt at large on man's inner and outer life, "Dead" and "Spiritual" life as well, and suggested the advisability of every man, irrespective of color and creed, not to be content with eating, drinking, and amassing wealth only but to seek for that righteous and holy path, which would lead to Heaven and enable him to have communion with the great God of the Universe. As a rule, being a Christian missionary, he left no stone unturned to convince the audience that Christianity alone is the only means of salvation.

In connection with the charitable acts of the late Mr. H. Dear, another act of public utility has come to my notice. The deceased had a number of houses in the Fort of Monghyr let out on rent for some time. I understand he has willed that these houses be sold and the sale proceeds made over to the District Charitable Society at Calcutta.

The Railway Company's new steamer "Bradford Leslie" is now complete, and on her way up to Sahibgunge via the Sundarabunds, to work the Ferry service between Sahibgunge and Caragotah Ghats. On the steamer's arrival at Sahibgunge there will be a nice opportunity for those who would like to take a trip across the river in a newly built and handsome steamer, to do so.

The people of this place are now in the midst of great excitement for the ensuing municipal elections. It is our fervent hope that such men will be elected as are able to devote time, energy and attention to municipal matters and the good of the town.

The depression of traffic on the East Indian Railway still continues.

The climate of the place now may be said to be pretty fair. Fever has abated. The winter has set in.

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1887.

No. 299

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY has summoned the several Members of the local Council for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations to resume the work of the Session this day.

SIR AUCKLAND COLVIN, accompanied by the Misses Colvin and Mrs. J. Colvin, arrived at Allahabad last Saturday morning. He was installed next Monday, the 21st Nov., Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces which office also now carries the Chief Commissionership of Oudh. His first act was to see, the same evening, Sir Alfred Lyall off whom he accompanied to the Railway station with a large crowd of Europeans and natives. Sir Auckland has chosen Captain J. Colvin as his Private Secretary.

WE read in a Constantinople telegram of the 22nd October:—

"The English Embassy here has received information of an insult to the master of the yacht Rosalind and the English Consul in Rhodes by two Turkish officials. It is reported that the insult was the result of ill-feeling caused in the island by the conversion to Christianity of a young Turkish woman. On her arrival in Rhodes she was imprisoned for changing her religion. The Consuls of England, Russia, France, and Austria protested, and she was released. The English Consul in consequence of the insult telegraphed to the fleet at Cephalonia requesting the presence of an ironclad, but the Sultan on learning of the incident ordered the arrest of the Turkish officers, and sent a general of division to place them on their trial."

Although irritation that might have led to the gravest complications, has thus happily been nipped in the bud. The incident cannot, however, fail to diminish the prestige of the Porte at home.

THE Madras Government have at last awakened to the necessity of a law for the safety of the public in public places. Accordingly, the law officers have been directed to draft a bill for the inspection and licensing of all places of public resort and entertainment. A good move which ought to move the other local Governments.

THE Bengal Civilian, Covenanted and Statutory will inaugurate the New Year by a dinner. The Statutory will be the Statuary of the occasion—mere table ornaments, many of them, we suppose.

A CORRESPONDENT of a Bristol paper complains that one of her Majesty's judges "lately underwent treatment at one of the great London hospitals, but did not judge it necessary to make any present to the hospital funds." Judges out here may do worse. A well-known hereditary fortune has been wrecked, in ministering to the convenience and pleasures of a dignitary of the bench, who was mean enough to take advantage of the weakness of the owner, who has not got even a handle of any kind to his name, for all his sacrifices.

SUMMONS has issued against one Lieutenant D. Stewart, United Service Club, Bangalore, for assault on a Mahomedan shopkeeper and his attendant. The complainants allege that Lt. Stewart came to the shop in the Cash Bazar at noon of the 16th instant and selected a white bottle of smelling salts and desired it to be kept aside for his syce who would be sent for it. At 2 O'clock a native servant came and purchased a colored bottle of smelling salts, but returned soon after, to return it in exchange for a white bottle, but Ismail Sait, one of the

partners of the store, would not take the colored bottle back. After 3, the master of the man came down and bullied the tradesman, but tough customer as White was, Ishmael was almost an Ishmael of a tradesman. He would not move an inch to humour the poor subaltern, any more than he was frightened by his thunder. He was apparently used to such heroes. But there are heroes and heroes. Firm as a rock though the shop keeper stood on his right, he was by no means so fixed on the earth that a British Lieutenant might not uproot him, if so minded. So, already provoked by the detention of his eight Annas, Master White was still farther exasperated by the negative Ishmaelism of Ishmael—the Chapman's nonchalance. White rushed to the attack on the black. The black's black servant rushed to the rescue of his master. He was repulsed with some cuts of the hunting whip with which the enemy was armed.

A HINDU astrologer not unknown to fame, has been making a sensation in the South and the West. He is a native of Jhind in the Panjab, his name Kashi Nath. Pandit Kashi Nath Jotsi has been out before in 1885, going to Bombay, and this year he had been on a pilgrimage to Rameswar, taking in Hyderabad on his return. He was back to Poona in the middle of last month. His feats are a miracle to the unlearned and the bewilderment of men of European science. He claims the power to predict. He tells the past and the future of a man by simply looking at him, so the reports goes. It is said that at Poona he has not failed in a single instance. He holds of course a number of certificates from all sorts of men, including, among Orientals, the late Ameer Shere Ali Khan, and, among Europeans, some of the highest civil and military officers and functionaries in India, such as Lieutenant-Governors, members of Council, Commissioners, and so forth. One testimonial signed by thirty six Europeans and natives runs as follows:—

"We thoroughly examined him, and in spite of our strong prejudice against any such knowledge and education, we finally found out that to the best of our knowledge and experience in life, he is the only astrologer worthy of praise. We put him questions, and he wrote them down before we spoke them out. He can tell the present, past, and future of man's life by looking at his face merely."

Still more to the point perhaps is a Political Officer's testimony, to wit—

"He told me Scindia would die on a certain date, which really came to pass."

He is said to be above pecuniary views.

A GERMAN—Herr Ladewigg—is said to be manufacturing paper that can resist the action of both fire and water.

THE Paris Post Office has issued a notice recommending the disuse of sealing-wax on ordinary letters for countries over the sea—in that the wax is melted by the heat under the tropics or by the fumigations to which mail bags are subjected. Science ought by this to have invented some sealer that will not stick when not wanted. Our secrets are now too much exposed to the weakness of gum arabic.

THEY are preparing in Australia for a Southern Polar expedition, and have instructed the Agent-General for Victoria to apply to her Majesty's Government for assistance—financial and otherwise. There have been many expeditions to the Arctic Sea, but the Antarctic is yet a veiled world. No fresh light has been thrown on this part of the

globe since captain (afterwards Sir James) Ross discovered in February 1842, the great wall of ice, at seventy eight degrees South. Captain Ross estimated the thickness of the wall at a thousand feet and it rose in many points to a height of two hundred feet above the water; and the Erebus and Terror sailed along its edge for four hundred and fifty miles without finding any break. Since then, no addition has been made to our knowledge of this icebound region.

THE County Court Judge at Aldham is suffering from at the worst a slight lapse of speech. In a case before him the other day, a witness happened to describe himself as a "Commercial" traveller, whereupon, "you mean," said the Judge, "a touter—a man who travels about the country touting for orders." The witness ventured to protest against the opprobrious term "tout," and proceeded to differentiate the two. "A commercial traveller was a respectable man of business," said he, "whereas a tout was usually a low character." The Judge stopped him short saying that "there was no difference between them." Witnesses are, of course, recognised game for bench as well as bar, in British courts. But though a witness might be easily bullied, the Press could not be silenced. *Truth* gives the Judge the retort—courteous shall we say? It says:—"A reproach of this sort comes with singularly bad grace from a County Court Judge, for there is certainly no body of men who tout so persistently and unscrupulously for briefs or appointments as barristers."

IN consequence of scarcity of food in Bagdad last year, the Turkish Government directed the suspension of customs duty upon grains imported into Bagdad till the 12th of May 1887. Information has now been received by the Government of India that the exemption of the import of cereals from customs duty has been extended to the end of May 1888.—Press Commissioner.

WE learn by this week's mail, that all the cities of Germany and Austria were preparing to celebrate on the 29th October last the hundredth anniversary of the evergreen "Don Juan." This opera, written by Mozart, expressly for the Theatre of Prague, was performed in that Theatre for the first time on that day, just 100 years ago.

FROM the statement that the defendants have not only retained Sir Henry James, Q. C., M. P., Mr. Lumley Smith, and Mr. William Graham but actually given through their solicitors instructions to the last named barrister to draw the written statement, there is at any rate a show of earnestness in Mr. F. H. O'Donnell's action against the *Times* for its articles on "Parnellism and Crime."

SIR W. W. HUNTER, K. C. S. I., C. I. E., retired from the Bengal Civil Service from the 30th September 1887.

MR. H. J. PARSONS, a first grade Judge, lately acting as Judicial Commissioner in Sind, a Bombay Civilian of 20 years, succeeds Mr. Justice West on the bench of the Bombay High Court.—In order to meet accumulated arrears, two extra judges having been required, Mr. Rattigan and Mr. Roe have been gazetted Judges of the Punjab Chief Court.

MR. BRANDT will shortly retire from the Madras High Court bench. —Dr. French has resigned the Bishopric of Lahore with effect from the 12th December next.

MAJOR General Newmarch having retired, Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Toker will officiate as Military Secretary to the Government of India until Lieutenant-Colonel Collen, Accountant-General, gone home for two months, returns to take up the Military Secretariat. Lt.-Col. H. G. Pritchard becomes Accountant-General.

WE read in the Resolution on the Report on the Administration of the Port of Chittagong for the year 1886-87 that "five vessels with jute from Naraingunge were wrecked in the Megna during the year. Two French vessels grounded by going out of their course: one of them foundered, and the other had to be condemned and sold." It is also remarked that "it is chiefly to French vessels that accidents happen near the Port of Chittagong."

THERE will be an exhibition of textile goods and machinery at Warsaw in the middle of next month.

MAN is man all the world over. The leading characteristics of British cockneyism are reproduced in the citizens of all capitals. There are jokes current among us of the Calcutta Baboo's notion of planks from the rice tree. Even the peculiarity of Cockney pronunciation is not without its analogue in the true "Ditchers."

But it is not the Calcutta Baboo only that makes a fool of himself in the country. Here is a good story illustrating the helplessness of those who ought to know.

"Ah" said the tourist, leaning over the fence and addressing the farmer, 'may I make bold to inquire what that great quantity of green vegetation growing over there is?' 'Certainly, minister; that's corn.' 'Ah, thanks, and those large animals over beyond the fence, they are, er—' 'Cows, my friend; everyone of 'em cows. Say, you don't seem to be very well posted on these 'ere things.' 'Perhaps not. The fact is, my business has kept me so closely confined that this is the first chance I've had to get out in the country.' 'Manager of bank, or something like that?' 'No, sir, I'm agricultural editor of a weekly newspaper, I have held that position for ten years.'

The Calcutta orators at many of the "mass meetings," lately got up in the country, have had experiences similar to this of the Agricultural Editor.

A WOODEN case has been dug up at Pompeii containing a set of surgical instruments, many of which are similar to those used in the present day.

HERE is a good anecdote of our Queen and one of her most brilliant statesmen:—

"After he had become comparatively rich the Queen politely, but firmly, commanded Lord Palmerston to get married. Lord Melbourne (the then Premier) was a confirmed widower, and if the Foreign Secretary continued a bachelor, there would soon be a serious difficulty about the reception of ambassadresses. 'May it please your Majesty,' said Lord Palmerston, 'I should only be too happy to marry if I knew any one who would have me.' The Queen graciously replied that there need be no difficulty on that head, and that if it were necessary, she would take upon herself to find a lady both ready and willing to become Lady P. So Lady Cowper was sent for from Rome, to reign for thirty years over the half of London Society. It is said, by the way, that the lady decided her husband was to be Prime Minister long before the idea occurred to himself."

That story has its bearing on the present question of Hindu marriage which rages as violently as ever.

WE learn—

"It is stated that a Convention is about to be concluded between England and Germany for the protection of English parents and guardians against bogus schools and 'pensions' in Germany, and for protecting German emigrants against spurious lodging houses in England."

It seems time enough for the Bengal Council to pass measures for the protection of honest trade and the most helpless part of the public from the frauds of advertisers and sham publishers and sham "medicine men."

RECENT revelations having tried Government sorely, we see

"It has been ruled by the Government of India that, in future, no officer belonging to the service of, or in receipt of a pension from, the British Government, who is transferred to service under a Native State, may accept a pension or gratuity from such State except with the sanction of the Government of India."

AN Argentine Republican Correspondent writes:—

"The Liebig Extract of Beef Company has 15,000,000 of dollars invested at Fray Bentos, a little town on the Uruguay River, where it consumes half a million head of cattle a year and pays dividends of 24 per cent. The London and River Plate Frozen Meat Company is becoming as great a commercial octopus as the Standard Oil Company, and is now shipping 7,000 carcasses a week to England on refrigerator ships constructed for the purpose."

While our countrymen are here endeavouring to put a check upon indiscriminate cow-killing, it must be disheartening to them to know that there are countries which live upon the slaughter of the bovine kind.

TWO Americans, Callan and Harkins, are being prosecuted for having in their possession a quantity of dynamite and plotting for an explosion in London. They have an active and widespread organization in America, intended to harass England by the agency of the most

desperate villains, armed with the most deadly instruments. Some of these wretches have a tincture of letters which makes them more dangerous. They have established a school where murder is taught not exactly as a fine art. The fire-eater at its head, Professor Mezzerooff, lately called a meeting by public advertisement at New York, to listen to a lecture in which he appealed for funds for his school. Among other things, he said :—

"England has spent 400,000,000 dols to build ironclads; 25 dols worth of dynamite would blow any one of them into the air. Give me 500 young men, and I'll line every seaport on the Irish Coast with torpedoes that can be exploded a mile away. Give me 500 more, and I will sweep every vessel bearing the English flag from the face of the seas, without losing a single man. I'll show you how to blow up a whole brigade of English soldiers with 200 dols. When we are ready we will declare war. I tell you we will have every Englishman in England walking on tiptoe for fear the next rock he steps on will blow up."

And he was vociferously cheered.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Resident in Nepal, Mr. Girdlestone, from Katmandoo, and the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling, from this station, lately met on the Nepal-Sikkim frontier on business. It is officially announced that business was to consult about a proposal to improve the gradient of a road along the ridge which divides British India from Nepal. It is said that the alignment of this road is far from what is desirable from the necessity of keeping within British territory. The Darjeeling Railway Company expect considerable increase of traffic from the adoption of the suggestion. Mr. Girdlestone returned to his post all the way through Calcutta, where he saw the Lieutenant-Governor on the subject. It is complained that people are so mischievous or foolish that they will believe that Mr. Girdlestone and Mr. Paul had any other business, or Mr. Girdlestone and Sir Stuart Bayley spoke of any other than "the subject." In fact, they think the visit has something to do with affairs in Nepal. Yes, there are no bounds to their credulity or suspiciousness, but the writer shows his hand without knowing it, when he lets the wretched public know that the road would be the better for being conducted through foreign territory. After that, it is vain to bully other public teachers. It is clear enough—it is confessed—that the question of extending the Darjeeling line along the lower border of the Himalaya, and the Nepal Terai, is before our Government.

MR. EVELYN having signified his intention to resign the membership of Parliament at its reassembling, the Deptford Liberals have chosen Mr. Wilfrid Blunt as their candidate. No mention whatever is made of Mr. Lal Mohun Ghose. The London *Daily News* explains the Babu's absence saying "Mr. Ghose returned to India, and is now devoting himself to professional work at the Calcutta Bar. It is therefore impossible for him, at present, to offer himself for any English constituency." Our countryman is right in not allowing himself to be any longer kept on the stretch of hope by English Liberals. His canvassing has inducted him into the mysteries of British politics. As our own proverb hath it, How often does the bald man venture out under the wood-apple tree? Keenly as Mr. Ghose must feel his disappointment to get into the British Parliament, his exertions have not all gone for nothing. They have made him the best known native of India at home and abroad. While he has become endeared to his own countrymen, Europeans could not but respect a man who, with all the disadvantages of an alien from the distance of unknown seas and unknown soils, repeatedly contests English Parliamentary elections. Thus he has got a fine start in resuming his abandoned profession. He is already reaping the fruit. He should stick to his Lakshmi. No more running after wills-of-the-wisp—soon. Let good Dadabhai—to speak in strictly Bengali trope—remove from our countrymen the stigma of bachelorhood. So help him God!

THE Government of Bengal has just sanctioned, on the recommendation of Sir Alfred Croft, Director of Public Instruction, the opening of a class, under the same conditions as that of Hospital Assistants for male students, in the Campbell Medical School, for training native female practitioners of medicine, through the medium of the vernacular language. The qualifications for admission have been fixed at a

much lower standard than those prevailing for admission of male students for training as Hospital Assistants. While male students are only eligible on having passed the Entrance Examination, or in at least two subjects of that examination, admission will be given to females on their having passed the upper primary scholarship examination or an examination of a similar kind to be held at the beginning of each session, by the teachers of the Campbell Medical School. In the arrangements made for the accommodation and instruction of the female students, the principle of separating them from male students will be attended to.

In communicating his scheme, Sir Alfred Croft writes: "I am fully aware that it is by no means certain to succeed owing to the general (but I am glad to say gradually diminishing) want of education among women in Bengal, and to the obstacles which social conditions impose. Material benefits would follow if happily it should be successful. If it fails, little or no cost is incurred and no harm is done." The scheme has been arranged on a very moderate scale of cost.

In sanctioning the experiment, Sir Stuart Bayley remarks that some native ladies of position having expressed their desire to receive instruction in the manner indicated, there is a demand for the medical education of females for which no suitable facilities now exist in the Medical College, where the English language is the medium. The qualifications for admission, however, seem to him to be open to the objection of being too low to enable the students to follow and assimilate the teaching they will receive. This point may be reconsidered.

THE last year's Customs returns of foreign beverages are so noteworthy that we do not hesitate to revert to the subject. They are thus analysed :—

"The figure for the total importations of wines and liquors into Bengal last year are the lowest yet tabulated. Port declined by 23 1/4 per cent, sherry by 13 per cent, champagne by 8 per cent, and even claret by 5 per cent. Similarly the dearer spirit is being given up for the cheaper. Within the last five years the imports of brandy have declined by 40,000 gallons, while whisky has risen by 30,000 gallons. Last year 1,400 cases of Exshaw, disgusted with the reception they met with at Calcutta, re-embarked in hot haste for London. Perhaps the change is seen most clearly in the case of ales, beers and porters, the imports of which have swollen by 50,000 gallons since 1883, and that concurrently with a vast development of the Indian breweries."

That, no doubt, shows a distinct decay in the taste of Anglo-Indian society. The organs of that society may well be uneasy under the inevitable inference of the logic of statistics. Accordingly, the *Pioneer* throws the entire responsibility of the change on that football of the parties and theorists—the unfortunate Rupee. But though the depreciated currency must have its influence on the living, yet, considering the classes that consume these liquors, considering the rates of pay in the Services and of emoluments of several of the professional classes, considering the difficulty of altering, not to say abandoning, drinking habits, considering the tyranny of social etiquette, we fear we must look to other causes to explain the extraordinary difference. Long before the recent depreciation, British society had begun to show—preference for one form of spirits to another. Twenty years ago, a gentleman would have been ashamed in company to call for a whisky peg. Now-a-days, people would rather stare at a brandy drinker as an antediluvian.

THE *Muslim Herald's* Hyderabad letter under date the 14th instant, promises litigation between the Minister and his late Private Secretary :—

"Capt. Cockburn late Private Secretary to H. E. the Nawab Asman Jah Bahadur had accompanied him to England, and was left there on the return of the Nawab for some reasons best known to himself. After the Nawab assumed charge of the office of the Dewana, the Captain telegraphed to him expressing a wish to return to Hyderabad expecting of course a post under him. The Nawab told his Munshi to telegraph to Capt. Cockburn advising him not to leave England till he had heard particulars by post. But the telegram not being properly worded the Captain took it to mean 'start without waiting for particulars by post.' However, he is come here, and as the Nawab would not patronize him, he is threatening to sue him for damages."

They are by no means a happy family in that land of rupees. The same writer continues :—

"The ill-feeling between Col. Marshall and Syed Abdur Razzaq, Secretary to H. H. for Surf-i-Khas, is being intensified day by day. The Colonel besides writing several stiff letters to Abdur Razzaq is reported to have called him a 'badmash.' Since writing to you last, I hear he has written another stiff letter. If Mr. Abdur Razzaq will



not beg pardon of the gallant Colonel, looking over the insults he has received, I fear he will go to the wall."

So he must, we are afraid, "beg pardon" or no. Razzaq must bow down to *Kismet*, with as good grace as he can command, consoling himself with the reflection, of which no earthly power can deprive him—that, after all, *Khoda Razzaq*. It is the sun of Marshall that now shines in the Deccan. Who can cope with the favourite of fortune—the irresistible and irresponsible dry-nurse of state—the protector of princes and patrons of ministers—the superseder of the Residency—the confidant of the British Proconsul—and last, not least, the medium of the Nizam's offer of the first grand subscription from the first Native State to the British Indian Defence against the advancing Bear or the frightening Bugbear?

After all, *Rupers* are not quite so abundant as the playing at ducks and drakes with them, which has been going on so valiantly, might lead one to suppose. The following instance, taken from the same source, may seem too narrow a basis for such a statement, but straws shew the direction of the wind.

"In accordance with an order from H. H. the Nizam the pay of all the reduced hands that were unemployed on the 30th Aban 1296 Fasli was stopped from the 1st Azar 1297F."

They are prudent financiers in Hyderabad. They have begun to take care of the pence. The pounds, you know, will take care of themselves—if they can,—in pockets beyond the state.

MR. J. H. NELSON, a District Judge in the Southern Presidency, has retired from the Covenanted Civil Service but not from active life. Nor does he go home, but sticks to the country. He intends to practise at the bar the law he has hitherto declared from the bench, and has already enrolled himself. What success will attend his new branch of the profession, adopted in age and under the weight of a recognised personality, is more than we can venture to predict. Indeed, we do not know enough of him. He is a man of mark, but that may go against him. He is one of our living Indian jurists, with views of his own on Hindu law and on other juridical subjects, which he has never lost an opportunity of pressing on the attention of the public and the profession as well as the Government. He has been sharply criticised, in his own Presidency as well as in Bengal and other Provinces. But he was never silenced, having again and again returned to the charge. Such a controvertist—not to use the long dragging word in common use—is not likely to be cordially welcomed by the easy-going members of a profession which takes law as it finds it in actual, not to say vulgar, practice, without caring for the topics of general jurisprudence or the niceties of particular. Still less is the bench likely to regard with favor the prospect of his practice. Taking judge-nature as not usually very different from human nature in general, the most uncompromising exposé of judicial pretensions may as well be warned to count upon the evil eye of the bench. Mr. Nelson's constant theme of complaint is against the vagaries of judge-made law in India, and Madras in especial. He started with the belief to which he sticks that the British bunglers have made a mess of the Hindu Law. Such a law reformer, even when he occupied a position on the subordinate bench, would have been exceptionally lucky if he was treated by the superior dignitaries in the profession with the courtesy that was due to his office. In descending to the bar, he had better not expect any quarter.

A GREAT Schoolmaster is dead. The Reverend E. Thring, headmaster of Uppingham School, was not only an excellent scholar who could impart knowledge and direct studies. He had the faculty for administration. Without being at all a martinet, he could keep under a liberal subjection his "young barbarians" at play as at work. He could do more, as endowed with higher powers. He had in him the organising of a great department or the supplying of any army in the field. When his educational works or even his entire strictly educational work is forgotten, he will be remembered as the pedagogue who planned and effected the migration of a whole school. The facts are thus given in the *London Daily News* :—

"Public attention, however, was directed to the school in the autumn, of 1875 by an outbreak of fever in the town and the school, and for a twelvemonth general interest was felt in the energetic efforts made to save the school. The outbreak took place in October, and on the 2nd of November the boys were dispersed for an unusually long holiday. The drainage of the school buildings was thoroughly overhauled, and at the end of January the boys came back. In three weeks a boy

sickened with fever, then two or three more fell ill, and it became evident that it was impossible to keep the boys at the school. What was to be done? The school could not be dismissed again; for the parents would not send back their sons to a place from which the fever could not be expelled. It was impossible to keep on, for the school would dissolve itself by the withdrawal of the scholars. The energetic headmaster, who saw the hopes of twenty long working years imperilled, determined on removal. On the 7th of March notice was sent to the parents that in a week the boys would return for an early Easter holiday, and that three weeks later the school would assemble elsewhere. Where it would reassemble Mr. Thring did not know, but his mind was made up. The existence of the school was in peril, and he was resolved to save it. He took the heroic resolution 'to pluck up the school by the roots, and transplant it bodily to strange soil'; to take with him 'the entire body of masters, with probably their families, and every boy who was ready to follow'—to transplant in fact the whole organization and material by which three hundred boys were housed, fed, taught, disciplined, amused, and kept in health. It was like the migration of a considerable village.

It was not till the 13th of March that Mr. Thring himself went to Borth, where an hotel was to be let. He liked the look of the place and took it. On the 16th a contract was signed giving possession till the 21st July, with power to renew the tenancy after the summer holidays. Only eleven days later a goods train of eighteen trucks, chartered by the Uppingham masters, was unloading at Borth platform the bedsteads and bedding of three hundred boys. A dozen houses had been taken, and a wooden schoolroom eighty-three feet by twenty was being erected. There were only eight days for the completion of all the preparations, but the Headmaster and his energetic helpers were equal to the occasion, and by the time the boys were due everything was roughly ready for them. On the fourth of April they came, two hundred and ninety in number. Of all the boys who were expected to return after the holidays, only three failed to join in this strategic movement to the sea. The boys entered fully into the spirit of the time. The Headmaster appealed to them to make their stay at Borth a happy one for themselves and for the people among whom they had come; and the appeal was not made in vain. They had to spend, not one term, nor two, but three terms by the sea; and in the second term an outbreak of fever seemed to imperil everything. It was stamped out by the careful isolation of each case. In April the school went back to Uppingham; and for ten years longer Mr. Thring has presided over it with well-deserved success. The story of Uppingham-by-the-Sea is one of the most interesting episodes in public school history, and Uppingham School itself is a lasting memorial to the courage and enterprise of its late Headmaster, whose name will always be associated with the school."

There is a romance in the strenuous struggle of a deserving man to save his fruit of twenty years' exertions which rescues that account from the meanness which attaches to schools and schoolmastering in the imagination of an ungrateful world, so that we recall the Flight of the Tartars in DeQuincey's wonderful narrative or the marvellous retreat of Mormons from the midst of the United States. Speaking without enthusiasm, there is not in the whole annals of schools, public and private, a feat like this removal of the Uppingham institution. The audacity that planned and the energy that carried it out, were the gifts of a statesman rather than the qualities of a headmaster. Mr. Thring was a schoolmaster by accident.

OUR *goolikhors* and *ganjakhors* need not despair—of some human consideration from their neighbours. At present, there are no terms of contempt like these words. Our English-speaking folk in especial, who know the classes designated by them least, are the most virtuous in their scorn of the poor things, and indignant in their denunciation of the nuisance. Of course, they follow their English teachers, who, for example, though they trade in opium-poisoning on the grandest scale in China, never fail to abuse the Chinese for being their victims. However it is, there is now hope in the prospect. Much of the ill-feeling in question is only contempt for ill-success in life and poverty—an unworthy affection which we are learning from the West. For the practice of opium- or hemp-smoking is associated with dirt and rags. Directly either is patronised by the well-to-do, all of a sudden it ceases to stink. Is it not the same with gambling? What an amount of desperate playing for money goes on every year on the turf! But who dare call it by the opprobrious epithet?

Our educated Indians would have felt better disposed towards their own countrymen's failings if they knew the state of things in Europe. The fact is that Europe had long since gone beyond the East in the use of these Eastern drugs. Where Orientals took opium, Europeans would take nothing short of morphia—the most active principle of the drug. There are regular *addas* at the European capitals for this dissipation—not nasty low hovels, but fine apartments and luxurious saloons.

"Morphine and vaporised either are being superseded in Paris as a means of intoxication by haschish. A club of haschischins has been founded on the Boulevard St. Michael. The members are to meet over a café there once a week, and Friday is the

day they have chosen. They are a select few, and as they set up to be *dilettanti*, they do not wish to be many. It is from a desire to avoid being intruded upon that they will not let it be known at what precise place they meet. Another of their rules is to take a minimum quantity of the intoxicating drug, which is to be determined by a doctor, and that each of the members is to describe either in writing or by word of mouth his sensations, for the information of all the others. The club has a chemist of its own as well as a doctor. The former is to be charged exclusively with the preparation of the *haschisch*, which is not to be chewed or drunk in an elixir, but taken in pills. In the East this drug is often mixed with dried hemp and tobacco and smoked, or it is taken as a drug, or made into square cakes to be chewed. In the latter form it is, to beginners, nauseating, but the nasty taste becomes delightful with habit. I have known, writes a *Daily News* correspondent, two *haschisch* eaters. One was an American and the other an Englishman, who gave it up early because frightened at the heavenly aspect which it gave to reality. He was not, he said, in a fool's paradise. His mind lost hold of no fact, but every fact, however prosaic, however vulgar, was transfigured. The glamour was so delicious that he felt he would have to pay a heavy price for it, and all the more so because the person, an ex-doctor in the Indian Army, who initiated him committed suicide to escape from the mental horrors which took hold of him in the period of reaction. The American persevered. His end was miserable. He had to be placed under keepers to prevent him from killing himself."

Whatever European civilisation takes up, it pursues with zeal and intelligence. Already, they have invented a word for the crave for the drug—*morphinomania*—the synonyme of which does not yet exist in India. But a change has come over the dream of intoxication of Europe. Hitherto they were, roundly speaking, *goolikhors*, now they are *ganjakhors*.

THE recent disclosures in regard to the sale of decorations, which went the length of implicating M. Grevy's son-in-law, Mr. Wilson, has involved the President himself, and may be serious for France herself. Stung by the reproaches of his opponents, M. Grevy determined to resign. He goes out on Monday. Meanwhile, M. Rouvier (the same who was in India) has been charged to form a transition cabinet in order to carry out the election of a successor. There is no knowing who will be chosen. The remark, now so common in English political circles, that it is the unforeseen that happens, is French in origin.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1887.

### THE MORGAN V. ROSS TRIAL.

THE trial of Mr. Ross, in the Madras High Court, for adultery with Mrs. Morgan, has been brought to a close. After Mr. Shaw's speech for the prosecution on the 14th instant, Mr. Morgan was called and deposed to the same effect as at the Egmore Magistracy. In his cross-examination by Mr. Branson, he admitted what amounted to a virtual reconciliation with his wife. A number of low class witnesses were produced the next day, from whose evidence it appeared that bullock conveyances were habitually used by the lovers for the practice of the mysteries of Venus. On the 16th and 17th inst, Mrs. Morgan gave her account. Although she tried to make herself out as having been a reluctant woman, she left the impression of an easy submission. After a deal of contention between the lawyers about the admissibility of letters and a newspaper, Mr. Branson took Mrs. Morgan up, and obtained her admission that her dates were wrong and her evidence before the Magistrate unreliable in many particulars. Her cross-examination was continued next day. The evidence for the prosecution being now closed, Mr. Branson offered to make his client's defence. Here the Crown Prosecutor interposed, to remind the Court that, under the Criminal Procedure Code, Section 342, the Court might now—before the defence began—examine the accused. The Chief Justice accordingly addressed Mr. Ross, who protested that there had been any adulterous intercourse between him and Mrs. Morgan. His Lordship then questioned him generally and Mr. Ross replied. Mr.

Branson then delivered his speech. He poohpoohed the prosecution, and denounced it as little short of a virtual conspiracy to ruin Ross. Morgan Saheb might be honest, though deluded, but Ma'am Morgan was a strumpet and something more. Dates had been tampered with, statements had been trumped up, possibly in good faith, by Mr. Morgan—certainly in malice prepense by Mrs. Morgan. If you ask, how the one comes to implicate the accused, Mr. Branson replies that the husband had reason to suspect his wife's virtue and had taken it into his head that, of all her friends, Ross was the man with whom she had gone wrong. If you ask why the other should try to ruin an honest man, the counsel has his reply ready, to wit, that it was necessary for her purpose to offer a victim, in order to screen the true Simon *Impure*, thereby leaving the door of illicit pleasure still open. But why did not Mrs. Morgan keep herself away from court? Why, there was an agreement between the unhappy couple—the woman was to help the goodman in wreaking his vengeance on the audacious man who had seduced his wife, as the condition of her pardon. It is for the Jury to judge if they can accept this view.

On the 21st, Captain Dease, of the Fusiliers, applied to make a statement, to clear his character from rumours against him in connection with Mrs. Morgan. But, in the absence of a charge against him, he had no *locus standi*. The Court could not, it said, allow.

Next, Dr. Cook, of Calicut, was called who spoke to a diary he had kept. A far more important witness was next called, in the person of Mr. Logan, Collector-Magistrate of Calicut. This gentleman backed his brother Civilian in trouble from the outset, and now swore hard in his favour. According to him, Mrs. Morgan has no character, all sorts of stories being current respecting her amours, but brother Ross was not her man or among her men at all. He, the immaculate member of the Madras Civil Service, could not be so bad. And good obliging Mr. Logan vainly tried to establish an *alibi* for his friend. For, herein decidedly was Love's—we mean Friendship's—Labor Lost. Of friendship, or at best that fellow-feeling, that makes us wondrous kind, Mr. Logan gave the most indubitable evidence. He would not receive poor Morgan's complaint against Ross. He dissuaded him from instituting his case and almost bullied him out of it. He certainly abused his office in favor of his friend, so far as to repeatedly set his face against Morgan's complaint against Ross.

At length, this case is in a fair way of ending. Mr. Norton, for the prosecution, finished his reply yesterday, and to-day the decision will be pronounced. Since the above was in type the telegraph announces the unanimous acquittal of Mr. Ross by the Jury.

### THE BENGAL GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY's attitude in regard to the infant scheme of Local Self-Government, is wise and considerate. It is one of thorough friendliness and fostering encouragement. Local Self-Government, no doubt, embodies a sound principle, and deserves to succeed. Sir Steuart goes a step farther, and enjoins on his officers their obligation to make it succeed. In reviewing the annual administration report of one of the Divisions, wherein the Commissioner had passed some strictures on casual failures here and there in municipal work under the elective system, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has fairly turned the tables

on the critic of the new system. Adverse criticisms on the subject are, as yet, premature, and Sir Stuart looks to the district authorities, by their tact and vigilant care, to secure smooth and efficient working of the measure. Of the soundness in principle, of that system, or of its practical usefulness, the Lieutenant-Governor has no doubts, and he declares his resolution to hold the officers of the executive Government responsible for its actual operation. The importance of views of this kind in the head of the Government, is obvious. Expressed as they are, in deliberate, open official rejoinder to unfavourable criticisms ventured on, evidently by way of feeler, they cannot fail to have a reassuring effect. There are, no doubt, officials with latent antipathy against the experiment in non-official local administration. At the same time, there are, doubtless, officials of a more statesmanlike turn who view the experiment with approval, but these latter are commonly tranquil-souled, and, though not averse to carry out their views, are too sober and moderate for action. Impressed with the difficulty of social problems and the responsibility of institutional reforms, they are without the motive for *Zid*. It is men of the former class who are the most dangerous. Their leaders are propagandists: Even the rank and file might do much mischief by giving scope to their preconceived ideas and likings on the subject. Upon them, Sir Stuart Bayley's observations must exercise a most salutary effect.

To us, who have fought the battle of Local Self-Government from the first without a day's misgiving of ultimate triumph, it is a great satisfaction to be able to record that, judged even from official reports—on the testimony of the enemy in many cases,—the working of the new municipalities appears to have been fairly successful. We have looked with some interest into the Government Resolutions on the Divisional Reports, and these reports, as summarized in the Resolutions, generally speak well of the work done in the last two years that the elective system has been in operation. It would have been too much to expect that the success should be uniform all along the line—that a first experiment should altogether escape its usual risks and occasional miscarriages. Such a thing would have exceeded the sanguine anticipations of its most ardent friends. It is no surprise to us, therefore, to observe that the new municipalities have sometimes been found wanting in their duties in regard to sanitation. Nor were we unprepared for failures here and there.

That these failures, however, should be more prominent in the metropolitan neighbourhoods, seems a matter of some surprise—it is certainly one of no small regret. The Commissioner of the Presidency Division writes in a rather dubious tone in his last report:—

"The elective system in municipalities has now passed a second year of its existence. It may be said to be working fairly well in the mofussil districts, but as regards the 24-Pergunnahs the experience of the past year has not in all respects been so favourable to the eventual success of the scheme as was that of the first year of the experiment. The past 12 months have brought more prominently to notice the existence of a very serious inherent danger which we can only hope will in time work its own cure. Mr. Forbes regrets that in two-thirds of the municipalities in his district private disputes or party discussions have arisen among the Commissioners of such a nature as to have required the intervention of the higher authorities. The cause of this state of things is not, he says, far to seek in a society composed of various castes and discordant elements, and naturally prone to litigation; but whatever be the cause, the tendency certainly is to create a fiction which cannot but prove detrimental to the interests of the rate-payers. He can only hope that a proper sense of their responsibilities will teach the Commissioners to lay aside all personal feelings, and subordinate private to public interests, and especially that the rate-

payers will come to see that the public good will best be served by their selecting men of temperate views as their representatives."

The above is simply quoted in the Government Resolution without any remarks, and evidently with the object that the people may ponder on the shortcomings which have been pointed out, and devise a proper remedy. We too can do nothing better than follow the example of Government and content ourselves with giving publicity to the matter, leaving our countrymen to judge of the most advanced district in Bengal how they should wipe off the reproach. It is indeed a matter of wonder that Local Self-Government should be more efficient in the mofussil districts than in the metropolitan. Verily, there is darkness under the lamp.

#### THE SANITATION MISUNDERSTANDING.

We have often insisted, in these columns, that a clear understanding should be arrived at between the local authorities, constituted under the Local Self-Government scheme, and the official authorities. We had our fears on the point, and, to judge by newspaper reports and reports from other sources which reach us, those fears have been too well realized. The Commissioner of the Presidency Division has especially distinguished himself by what has been termed his raid against municipal grants to education, particularly English education, and incurred no small unpopularity among the more ardent or struggling supporters of educational institutions. We would say nothing as to the principle of calling upon municipalities to bear any share of the cost of education. That principle may be sound or not, but, as a part of the financial scheme of decentralisation, whereby Imperial and Provincial Funds have been relieved by partially devolving some of their old obligations upon others, it has been adopted and incorporated in the law. Nevertheless, the greatest uncertainty prevails as to the limits of this principle, and the way in which it should be carried out, and awkward misunderstandings are the result. The question should be definitely set at rest, and officials and the local bodies should distinctly understand their position in regard to it.

An illustration of the confusion prevailing in official quarters on the subject, has lately been brought to public notice. In the recent Government Resolution on the Bengal Sanitary Report, occurs the following passage:—

"The Sanitary Commissioner complains that nothing is done towards the removal of the grave sanitary defects while plenty of money is forthcoming for lighting, watering roads and education. Dr. Lidderdale cites some instances in which either nothing was spent on sanitation proper, or in which the amounts allotted were clearly inadequate; but Sir Stuart Bayley is unable to agree that education can properly be described as a secondary requirement. Again the Inspector-General of Police annually complains of the inadequate sums spent on lighting, and no doubt good lighting goes a long way towards putting a stop to the commission of theft and house-breaking at night. Although, however, the Lieutenant-Governor is unable fully to accept Dr. Lidderdale's views on these points, he is satisfied that, in some municipalities, the allotments made for sanitation are small in comparison with the amounts devoted to other objects."

This is as good as a gentle snub. It is curious that high Government officials should have to be pointedly reminded of the policy which has long ago been laid down by Government on any subject.

It is much to be regretted, however, that an impression should be gaining ground amongst officials, that even the educated classes in this country are indifferent to sanitation. Towards this impression, the Sanitary Department of each Local Government has contributed not a little. The sanitary officers, from not being armed with funds to carry out their

proposals of improvement, have nothing left but to fall foul of the people. All would have been well, however, if they were provided with the wherewithal for effecting the reforms, for which, as things now stand, they merely cry in the wilderness. The question, like many others, hinges on money. Neither they, nor the people in most cases, have the sinews of war to back their will-power, in which neither is wanting.

As to the people, it is, as we have often said, an injustice to brand them as in love with dirt and uncleanness. The whole of their religious system is intimately interwoven with sanitary principles. Their scriptures lay down rules for daily observance, from early dawn to the close of the day's work, which wonderfully illustrate the great regard of their forefathers for hygienic laws. Look at the country with its high and dry cottages of the poor, each furnished with a high open ventilator terrace, and the mud walls daily washed with disinfectants. Building their houses, apart from each other, in broad open meadows, or protected by a belt of useful trees and plants, on well-drained ground raised above the low cultivation tracts, and passing their lives for the most part in the open air, their arrangements for ventilation are sufficient for all purposes. A Hindoo or a Mahomedan never builds a house before he has provided himself with a tank, and their constant ablutions, indeed, their numerous religious ceremonies—naturally make them particular about water. Tanks, however, like other things—Sanitary doctors not excepted—in time get old, and cease to be efficient. There is thus an abundance of foul tanks in the country, big and small, wherever one may go. These are hot-beds of disease, but the remedy is easier to suggest on paper than put into practice. Each tank, under the system of joint ownership which prevails, is the property of a number of men, and these landed rights involve complications, financial and legal, which offer serious obstacles to any practical proposals for reclaiming the properties. The work of reclamation must necessarily be one of some expense, and some of the coparceners may ill afford their share of it, while they may not be prepared to part with their rights in favor of others. Thus, difficulties arise, the evil is left untouched, working incalculable mischief, and giving strangers and foreign observers a notion of the people's disregard of their health, which is by no means correct.

The appearance of crowded centres of business, is indeed most disgraceful. But here the people are less to blame than the civic authorities. People in pursuit of business or of employment, crowd into cities and accommodate themselves as best they can. They are thankful, in their hurry, if they can find a place to get in, and the duty of making regulations for the proper ordering of houses lies on others. For, little foresight is usually shown by the latter in the early stages of the growth of a city, till when the inevitable consequences of such want of foresight have grown to great proportions, a convenient excuse is set up that it is the people who have no regard for sanitary laws.

But it is useless quarrelling on a matter of life and death. Be the blame whose it may be, there is no doubt that the country at large is gradually deteriorating in its sanitary conditions, and it is time a well-concerted and organized scheme of improvement should be devised, and adequate funds provided, from local and other sources, for carrying it into effect. The Sanitary Commissioners are merely advising

officers, and have at present little to do besides writing reports, and laying the blame for defects in wrong quarters.

## THE WORKS OF GOD *VERSUS* THE WORKS OF MAN.

### I.

WE purpose on this occasion to confine ourselves to a statement of facts, without caring to be controversial. We purpose to show one of God's works—to illustrate only one faculty of the human brain; the faculty of remembrance. A small matter much overlooked. But, though we do not intend to be controversial, we cannot help challenging the Atheist and the Materialist, to show from the works of man anything at all approaching it in marvellousness as well as (if we might use such a word in the connection) modesty, its accuracy, indeed its thorough and functional suitableness. We invite the reader, whoever he may be, Reis or Rayyet, however high or low, to a few minutes' consideration of one of his highest possessions. We believe that, of all the wonderful miracles of nature, animate or inanimate, there is perhaps none so amazing and inscrutably wonderful as the human memory. We do not refer to the specially gifted and trained memories of exceptional geniuses, the Mezzofanties who can speak any number of languages, or the Macaulays who can repeat by heart whole pages and volumes of prose or poetry. Oh no, we do not soar so high! We are thinking of the ordinary human being, the man whose simple native power of recollection and reminiscence seems to us almost the very greatest marvel in the whole vast museum of the physical universe. For even the humblest and most ordinary memory is stored and stocked, in all its innumerable cells and pigeon-holes, with such an endless collection of facts and ideas as might well appal the stout heart of the most ardent statistician. Indeed, it is probable that most people, from want of analytical habits, immensely underestimate the extraordinary storehouse of their own memories. We believe the merest child or the most ignorant peasant knows and remembers a number and variety of things which, when all put together would surprise the most learned and thoughtful of men. Where the room can be found in "one small head" to stow away so many facts and fancies, is indeed a real puzzle.

Look first, for example, at the mere wealth and copiousness of language. Every one of us is fully acquainted with his mother-tongue to the extent of at least three or four thousand words, every one of these words answering to an idea, and calling up in his mind the picture of an object or an action with which it is associated. Think of the number of visible things alone of which we know and remember the names! Let us take a small group of objects only—say fruits; and consider of how many such we know the names, and can immediately conjure up a mental picture. To begin with, there are Mangoes, Plums, Pineapples, Cocoanuts, Papayas, Pomeles, Oranges, Guavas, Plantains, Taparces, Lichees, and numerous others. Then there are the imported exotic kinds such as Grapes, Apples, Pears, Figs, and so on through a lengthened catalogue. The names of the fruits we believe would probably fill the space we purpose to devote to this paper. Let us add, as next waiting for enumeration, the whole great family of melons, gourds, vegetable marrows, and cucumbers, of which there is an infinite variety. Whatever group of things we begin to think of, we shall find that just the same wealth and variety of common every-day knowledge occurs to us; each of us knows hundreds of animals and birds and fishes and insects; each of us is acquainted with the names of so vast a number of diverse objects as would fill a whole volume of close-packed type, or exhaust the resources of a considerable dictionary.

Let us now consider the fact that, besides the mere names themselves, we are all acquainted with innumerable points in the appearance or habits of all the objects thus mentally enumerated. Take a single example out of all the number thus quoted—say a Mango, and reflect for a moment how many facts about its structure and growth the veriest ignoramus or merest child can immediately remember. Most of us can readily recall at once the look and taste of the mango, its size and shape, its colour without and within, and many other matters respecting it. There is a

vast collection of facts, easily remembered by almost everybody, about a single common fruit. Let us take a bigger object, say an elephant; the range of memory, in the same way, is still more marvellous. At once we have conjured up before our mind's eye the picture of that vast unwieldy animal, of his head and trunk, his huge lopping ears, his mouth and tusks, his big legs and crushing feet, his thick skin, his sleepy eyes, his stumpy tail, his queer gait, his grave philosophic manner. If next we try to think of all the other facts we know about him—his native forest haunts; the mode in which he is hunted and trapped; the way in which he, himself, becomes a hunter, aiding the shikari most effectually; the importance of his ivory; the objects made from it; his use as a beast of burden; the howdahs which he carries on his back; his appearance at a Zoo, or in a travelling wild-beast show, and so forth, through a hundred particulars, it is fairly astonishing how wide a range of facts every child or fool possesses about the history and habits of this one great Asiatic and African animal.

Once more, not only do we know the names of so many distinct objects or creatures, and the attributes or qualities at once summoned up in our minds by the names themselves, but we also know and remember endless groups and collections of words, current phrases, or stock sayings, all of which we can employ in conversation whenever needed, with the same ease and certainty as we employ the separate words themselves of which they are compounded. Yet each of these common formulas of speech has had to be unconsciously learnt and remembered quite as truly, though not with so much difficulty, as the multiplication-table, the names and dates of historical personages and historical events. We do not merely mean such invariable and frequent phrases as "How do you do?" or "If you please," but rather those more subtle proverbial elements of conversation of which each one of us possesses, without even knowing it, an immense assortment. For instance, we say, "as black as a crow," or "as black as ink," or "as black as my hat," or "as black as a negro." "As white as snow," "as green as grass," "as blue as the sky," "as red as a rose," are all real compound elements of everybody's everyday vocabulary. "As old as the hills" comes naturally to our lips in speaking of age, "as dark as pitch" in speaking of a moonless evening. "As drunk as a lord" is answered and balanced by "as sober as a judge;" "as merry as a grig" finds its true counterpart in "as jolly as a saushboy." Sometimes we have half a dozen alternative forms for expressing the same degree of comparison: "as dead as a door nail," "as dead as stone," "as dead as mutton," are all alike familiar. "As soft as silk" immediately suggests "as hard as stone," and "as cold as ice" is contradicted at once by "as hot as blazes." Probably a single person's speech, if carefully watched for a whole twelvemonth, would yield several hundreds or thousands of stock phrases formed on this comparative model alone. And there are dozens more set phrases equally common, running in the same way in big bottles. For example, we might look at the stock phrases connected with sleep alone, such as "to take forty winks," "to go to the land of Nod," "to be in the arms of Morpheus," "to have a little snooze," and so forth, till the reader's patience would be tired. Or, again, we might instance the common sentences used about death, "to go to his last home," "to be gathered to his fathers," "to shuffle off this mortal coil," "to go the way of all flesh," "to fall asleep," "to join the majority," "to end his days," "to go to Davy Jones' locker." There is hardly an act or an idea in life about which we have not all of us unconsciously gathered a whole vast collection of proverbial phrases which we trot out and bring into use from time to time as occasion offers.

L.

WE have been a good deal shaken this week, by the death, almost in our arms, of an old and most esteemed friend, who was an honor to his species, and far and away one of the best and finest of our countrymen—Rakhal Das Haldar. He died on the 23rd inst, under circumstances particularly trying to friends, after a sharp illness of ten days, from what we should call acute brain fever leading—and led perhaps by a miserable system pretending to good—to apoplexy. One of the

ablest servants of the Bengal Government, he had served in difficult and delicate situations with credit and exercised, over a large and primitive area, power practically unlimited, without a stain. With this year he was to complete his fifty-five years of life. Having joined service late, he was not entitled to a large pension. He was poor besides, and burdened with a large family, having married when a boy of nine. Moreover, he had lived as a gentleman and as became an officer of Government and had, in consequence, been unable to save. Still he would not stoop to trouble Government and cringe to Secretaries in order to obtain an extension like so many others. He would go out, cheerfully, and devote the rest of his days to letters, for which he had a capacity. Happily for him, we have now a worthy man at the helm and worthy Chief Mate and officers, and Rakhal was known and appreciated. Most honorably, the Government, of its own motion, offered him extension. And they posted him to a desirable place with the finest house of any sub-division, or even District, in the neighbourhood of Calcutta—Baraset. He had sent his things including an immense quantity of furniture, in fourteen bullock-carts—and the officer there had sent away his. He was about to start when fever arrested. Neither he nor we suspected that it was the hand of Death.

He has left to mourn his loss one of the most loving even of Hindu wives, who had been received and as it were adopted in his family as a mere child—she having been married at five years of age. His sons are all characters like himself. The eldest, Sukumar, is one of the most promising of our writers. He must now look up to the Government, his father served with such intelligent enthusiasm, as one of his parents.

#### MONGHYR.

*Jamalpur, November 22, 1887.*

On the 21st instant, in broad daylight, an attempt at murder was committed on the person of one Madho Das Babaji (Sadhu) ascetic of the Kustobarin Bathing ghat of Monghyr, by a recent comer, evidently an ascetic in disguise. The particulars are as follow:—The new comer used to reside in the same ghat for some time, and was on good terms with his co religionist. All of a sudden an altercation took place between the two, for some money matter, followed by an exchange of hot words; subsequently, the latter took hold of a wood cutting hatchet, then in his possession, and commenced belabouring the former. About four or five blows were struck on his person, causing him to bleed profusely. He was immediately removed to the Government Charitable Hospital. The man is now lying in a precarious state. The culprit is under arrest awaiting trial. Both Monghyr and Jamalpur Hindu public are really sorry for the unhappy and diabolical deed which has been perpetrated on the person of the amiable, courteous, and obliging young *Ramath Baisnav Saidu* Madho Das. It is a pity to see that so many ascetics, instead of minding their legitimate mission to keep aloof from the world for the sole purpose of prayer, have now-a-days become a great nuisance to the public at large and been guilty of ruffianly acts like the one under notice.

The rate payers of Jamalpur Bazar and its vicinity, mostly Marwaris and up-country merchants, are much inconvenienced by the sudden breakage, by Municipal authorities here, of the covering or platform over their pucca drains which cost them a large outlay at the design and order (as they say) of the then Municipality. The pulling down has not only made the people suffer a deal of inconvenience but has caused more substantial loss, by damaging the foundation of certain pucca buildings. They, I understand, have already petitioned narrating their grievances to the Chairman of the Local Municipality and forwarded a copy of the same to the District Magistrate and Divisional Commissioner as well, but have not as yet received any redress. This is a matter which should be looked into. I do sincerely hope that the authorities will pay more attention to these matters than they do, as the people are now hard pressed by the Municipality.

If it be the object of the Municipality to have pucca open drains, of course in a sanitary point of view, it is commendable, but the question is who is to make good the loss sustained by the rate-payers?



See. But the following find out what  
the article of the same of Dec 31, 1884 is -

x Local Self-Government - p. 42  
(Jan 28, 1888)

Seminarian Zooloon } - p. 67  
(Feb 3 11, 1888)

Seminarian Zooloon } - p. 103  
(March 3, 1888)

Progress of Local  
Self Govt (Aug 7, 1888) p. 318

Local self-Govt  
(Aug 6, 1888) - p. 367

Local Self Govt } - p. 438  
(Sept 15, 1888)

Difficulties of Local  
Self Govt (Feb 18, 1889) - p. 67

Local Self Govt at Hampton  
(Feb 16, 1889) -

Local Self Govt  
(March 2, 1889) -

Parkland Rejoinder  
(May 13, 1889) -

Local Self-Govt } -  
(Dec 7, 1889)

Official opinion on  
Local Self Govt (Dec 28, 1889) - p. 57

Sketch of self-Govt in the United States - II p. 583



# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VI.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1887.

No. 300

## BEHIND THE SCENES.

[To "M. P.," aged 13; after taking her "behind the scenes" at the Standard Theatre.]

LITTLE Maudie! little maudie,  
Tell me what you think it means;  
Tell me what you thought, young lady,  
Of your peep behind the scenes.

Was it worth the fuss and riot,  
Just for pleasing me and you?  
Shouldn't we be better quiet  
For that wasted hour or two?

Reading books and storing knowledge,  
Bothering our little brains,—  
Growing wise at school and college,—  
That alone is worth the pains.

Can there ever, could there ever,  
Anything so silly be,  
As to fancy you are clever  
To invent a fancy sea?

Pasteboard rocks and mackintoshes,  
Spread to keep the people dry,  
When the nonsense-water washes  
Up into the nonsense-sky,—

And a great big stupid curtain  
Falls between two sets of fools!  
Such a waste of time, for certain,  
Ought to be against the rules—

Yet your eyes grew bright and brighter,  
And your blood came fast and warm,  
And you set your small teeth tighter,  
As you watched the painted storm

Can you let such make believing  
Make you laugh and make you cry,  
Sometimes joying, sometimes grieving?  
Never mind, dear, so do I!

Was it *very* silly? clearly  
All of us were nothing loath;  
All nice people, Maud, are merely  
Children of a larger growth.

So then, as you're growing older,  
Let the wise folk have their say;  
Chilly souls alone grow colder,  
When they're sitting at a play.

"Play" is work, my girl; to merit  
There above no little gain,  
If it ease a single spirit  
Of a single hour of pain.

Little Maudie! little maudie,  
Let the heart's wild flowers grow wild;  
Over all things, be a lady,  
But—to God—remain a child.

September 1887.

HERMAN MERIVALE.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Examination Season draws near. So many are interested in the great Phantom of the Period—Competition—that we give the news relating thereto precedence.

ON the 16th January 1888 will commence, at the Senate House, the examination of Clerks for the Secretariat offices of the Government of India and the departments directly attached thereto. The probable number of vacancies is given at 3 for the Upper Division and at 31 in the Lower Division of clerkships. The examination will be held simultaneously at Allahabad and Lahore. Of the three vacancies in the Upper Division, two will go to the successful Calcutta candidates and the remaining one to the best of the N. W. P. or Lahore. In the Lower Division, twenty-one will be reserved for Calcutta and ten for Allahabad and Lahore. Candidates must apply, with the fee of Rs. 10 and Rs. 20 and certificates of age and good conduct before the 15th of this month to the Secretary to the Board of Examiners, Calcutta.

THE Test-Examination of private students for the next University Entrance Examination, has been fixed for the 3rd and 4th January 1888. This for the districts of the Presidency and Chota Nagpore Divisions. Applications, with the admission fee (Rs. 4), to be made at least 10 days before the day of examination.

THE examination for admission to the Mechanical Apprentice Department, Civil Engineering College, Seebore, will be held at the College, on the 16th and 17th January 1888. Applications for permission to appear at the examination, must be filed, with the necessary certificates of age and of good conduct, with the Principal by the 10th.

By the courtesy of an esteemed friend, we are glad to be able to anticipate our contemporaries in the next item.

The examiners for the first M. B. and Second M. B. Examinations for the Degree of Bachelor in Medicine in the present Session, are

Dr. E. A. Buch.

Board of Examiners

Dr. K. Macleod, Anatomy.

Babu Tara Prasanna Ray, Chemistry.

Rai Kanai Lal De, Medical Jurisprudence.

Dr. B. C. Rudra, Materia Medica.

Dr. D. Prain, Botany.

Dr. R. C. Chundra, Medicine.

Dr. D. O. C. Raye, Surgery and Oph. Surgery.

Babu Chundia M. Ghosh, Physiology.

Dr. Juggubundhu Bose, Pathology.

Dr. W. J. Simpson, Hygiene.

Baboo Balie Chunder Sen, Midwifery.

J. Wood-Mason, Comp. Anatomy and Zoology.

LAST month, on account of the annual cleaning, the Indian Museum could be open to the public only 11 days, and the visitors, during that period, numbered—natives 15,798 males 4,152 females and Europeans 600 males and 80 females; the average being 1,848.

A COMMITTEE, consisting of Mr. H. J. S. Cotton, B. C. S., just released from the Calcutta Municipality, Mr. C. W. Odling, M. E., M. I. C. E., Superintending Engineer, Sone Circle, and Rai Jaiprakash Lal Bahadur, Dewan of Doonraon, have been appointed to examine into the working of the entire Sone Canal System of Irrigation, "with a view to provide remedies where possible for admitted defects, and to improve the rules, and, if necessary, the law under which the system is administered." Complaints about the working of the system, have been loud and from divers quarters, and Sir Stewart Bayley, unlike his predecessor, has not been deaf to them. Mr. Cotton has already left.

We read in a Madras paper that all public offices at the Presidency and in the Provinces will be closed for the Christmas holidays, from Thursday the 22nd December 1887 to Wednesday the 4th January 1888, both days inclusive. Thus the Christmas holidays in the South are longer than our Doorga Pura vacation, and yet we hear no complaint of inconvenience and loss to Southern European merchants and tradesmen.

THE Government of Madras have directed that, in addressing native Hindu gentlemen, the courtesy title of Rao Bahadoor should be used (usually to be affixed) instead of Rai Bahadoor, in addition to the prefix M. R. Ry. and the affixes Gnn and Averal. Is there not a tendency among our Madras friends themselves to omit these prefixes and affixes? Young Madras like Young Bengal affects to be Sahib. Nature and History are alike against the absurdity.

By an order in the Gazette, hunting, shooting and fishing are prohibited, from the 15th December 1887 to the 1st June 1888, in the Reserved Forests in the Palamow and Hazaribagh Forest Sub-divisions and the Horhap Forest Reserve near Ranchee, in the Chota Nagpore Forest Division. The Reserved Forests of the Angul and Khorda Sub-divisions of the Orissa Forest Division, are also closed against hunting and shooting during the same period. We hope the order will be specially notified at all the neighbouring cantonments and camps, and to all relieving and marching parties. The same observance we may as well add in this connection ought to be held with respect to the new Game Act.

It is reported by telegraph from Berlin that a telegram has been received there, from the German Colonial Company of South West Africa, reporting the discovery of rich and extensive goldfields in the Lucentland and in Angua Pequena. We hope this is no ball trick.

It is satisfactory to find the names of the sons and heirs of the late Baboo Ramnarain Roy, in the Gazette, not as defaulting or misconducting Zemindars but as taking charge of and maintaining, at their own cost, the embankment.

OUR English friends are progressing at a rapid pace. Here is the latest communication from Duca:

"It appears that the father of a girl asked his son-in-law to allow his daughter to go to his house for some days. The son-in-law expressed his unwillingness to comply with the request. On the father-in-law's still refusal, he agreed to allow his wife to go to her father's house, provided the father executed a bond, undertaking to return her to him within a specified time, and to pay a penalty of Rs. 200 per day till his wife returned. The poor father executed, it is alleged, the bond on a single sheet of paper, and returned home with his daughter. As fate would have it, somehow or other the girl over-stayed her time by some days. Now the valiant son-in-law has presented the document for redemption. The father-in-law denies its execution altogether. The paper is now before the Registrar of the district who has referred it to the Deputy Magistrate for report."

What precaution contemporary of the *Dacca Gazette*, whose acquaintance, from mentioning names? That is the only way to stamp out this sort of matrimonial meanness, or post-matrimonial unkindness. This precious son-in-law may be a great Koolin, but he is a small one for politeness and vulgarity.

THE following is going round.

"The women in America are invading every sphere of employment. Female workers are as plentiful as blackberries; and women are admitted to the Bar in some of the States. Mrs. Ada M. Rittenbender, a lady barrister, has just been nominated as a candidate for the office of District Judge. The Clerk of the Peace in one of the New Hampshire counties is a lady. A woman pilots one of the Lake Champlain

steamboats. A Buffalo lady, Mrs. A. M. Holloway, has just obtained the contract for cleaning the streets of the city for next five years. Argonia, in Kansas, rejoices in a female mayor, and Syracuse, in the same State, boasts of a female municipal council. A lady is known to aspire to the presidency of the United States; and, considering the rapid rate at which her sex are progressing in the establishment of their pretensions, there is no reason why she should despair."

THE following paragraph occurs in the *Madura Mail*:-

"The American is practically original in more things than a thousand. A prominent physician in Philadelphia wears skin made from the skin of a Negro, and he insists that the tanned hide of an African makes the most enduring and the most pliable leather known to man. Young medical students make their cigar-cases, match-cases and instrument-cases and their slippers of the skins of negroes, and (oh! in human chivalry!) of fair women drowned and dissected. What next? May not these doctors *in posse* one of these days chop off a bit of the living palpitating limb of the ladies they admire, to preserve the skin as a memento of their admiration and as a keepsake? Lady patients, beware!"

The poor Niggers at any rate are avenged. Huddled into the same boat with the fair sex of the White race, they would scarcely care to complain. As the goose may be supposed to be capable of undergoing with tolerable complacency the operation of plucking, in order to supply an instrument for recording the productions of genius and wisdom—a pen for a *Principia* or a *Paradise Lost*—so poor Sambo may not mind being flayed in the same skinnership with the "prime gals" and blood mares, and safely deposited with them.

IN the Government Resolution on the General Administration Report of the Burdwan Division for the year 1876-87, under the head Operation of the Sale Laws, occurs the following:—

"The Collectors of Midnapore and Hooghly report that it has grown into a practice to accept without enquiry arrears of revenue tendered between the day fixed by law as the latest on which payment may be made, and that fixed by advertisement for the sale of estates in consequence of default. The Commissioner, Mr. Wilson, considers this to be a subject to which the attention of Government might with advantage be directed. He observes:—

"It is idle to fix a latest day for payment if all defaulters are allowed to make good their default, without loss to their pockets, up to the subsequent dates fixed for the sale of defaulting estates. But, on the other hand, it is quite impossible to formulate any rule or principle which should guide a Collector in deciding whether or not to accept payment of revenue after the due date. All must depend on the Collector's individual judgment, which can hardly fail to incline towards extreme leniency, since Government has declared that 'the cancellation of a sale on the ground of hardship is one of the most severe censures which can be passed on a Collector.' Even if it could be determined what causes, if well established, should be regarded as valid, it is quite impossible for a Collector to decide summarily in each particular case whether the excuses alleged are in fact true. Mere frequency of default is no reason for not showing indulgence, as the scarcely remunerative estates and estates held by numerous individual proprietors, in which defaults are most frequent, are just the estates in which the *bona fide* obstacles in the way of punctuality are greatest. The true remedy for the present state of things is, I think, a provision of law or executive orders authorizing the levy of a moderate penalty upon exempting a defaulting estate from sale."

The matter is one which has for some time formed the subject of correspondence between the Bengal Government and the Board of Revenue, and is still under consideration. The executive orders issued have checked the evil of hasty and inconsiderate sales for trifling defaults, evidently the result of mistake; but it is a question whether greater punctuality might not be secured by some self-enforcing sanction, such as that suggested by Mr. Wilson, and also whether zemindars might not in some cases receive notice before their estates are advertised for sale on account of arrears."

The suggestion of Mr. Wilson is reasonable. Sir Stewart Bayley wisely considers that defaulting Zemindars should be informed by notice of the sale of their estates. There should be provision for wider and better publicity of both revenue and patni sales under Act XI of 1859 and Regulation VIII of 1819.

ACCIDENTS, like deliberate acts, adapt themselves to surrounding circumstances. Crimes as well as mishaps are various in form as the communities and countries. They are also affected by the difference of progress of nations. Thus, while a large number of men annually perish in India and other tropical lands from the bites of venomous reptiles, not a single case might occur of the kind, unless at living zoological collections or among professional exhibitors, in England and other cold countries of the North. It is long since wolves roamed in the interior of Great Britain, but the Continent is still infested, and in some countries, notably Russia, the wolves are a terror to travellers. So in Northern India we rarely hear of deaths from falling from trees, and hardly ever of accidents from climbing the lofty cocoanut, whereas in the Southern sea-board and in the neighbouring islands, which

abound in the cocoanut, such are common enough. In Jaffa, a man lately fell from a cocoanut tree and died before any medical aid could be procured.

"W. F." in the *Madras Mail* suggests a tax of 2 annas per gallon on kerosine. He writes:—

"This would raise the retail price of common kerosine to 11 annas per gallon, or 1 anna 10 pies per bottle. There is no probability of the consumption being checked for any length of time by such a tax. The decided tendency of the oil is to decline even from its present low price, for the supply in the Caucasus, if not also in America, seems to be inexhaustible. So the natural course of the market may soon enable dealers to sell the common oil, weighted though it may be with a-2 annas per gallon duty, at the price now obtained for it. But even if the first cost at the pit's mouth does not fall yet awhile, the public in India would speedily accommodate itself to the increase of price caused by the proposed tax. In other words, after a day or two, and a little incredulity regarding the explanations offered by dealers for a rise in price, the tax would not be felt. To the Government the tax would contribute, on the present rate of import, nearly Rs. 40,000,000 per annum to the revenue. The income-tax produces barely 25 lakhs net, to set against the annoyance and bad feeling which it causes. Double the tax, and then not half a crore will be obtained, but the discontent will increase. It would be just as reasonable to tax the oil we burn as it is to tax the beer, wine and spirits we drink. The latter now yield a revenue of nearly 40 lakhs. The Government must have more revenue; and it would, of course, prefer to obtain what it needs for the safety or welfare of the Empire by indirect rather than by direct taxation."

We say amen. The Committee on the Octroi for Calcutta recommended the taxing of this nuisance.

A DEPUTATION of the British Peace and Arbitration Committee, besides others, twelve members of Parliament, has gone all the way to America, to present a memorial to President Cleveland, in favor of international arbitration. It was received at Washington on the 31st October. Sir Lyon Playfair, on the part of the Parliamentarians, first addressed the President. We extract the principal portion of his speech:—

"This memorial has been signed by two hundred and thirty-three members of the House of Commons, more than a third of the whole number. It is really the outcome of an ardent desire on the part of the working men of the United Kingdom to perpetuate the friendship and peace which now happily exist between kindred peoples on both sides of the Atlantic. The representatives of the people have given expression to this feeling among their constituents by signing a memorial. Even if it does not effect an immediate or proximate treaty of arbitration, you will, Mr. President, recognise that the memorial is a remarkable expression of the brotherly feeling which our working classes entertain for their kinsmen in the United States. International arbitration, if established, will only be one step further in the history of civilization. When individuals quarrel, society does not permit them to settle their dispute by violence, but refers them to courts of equity or law in order that their differences may be composed. Why should not this principle be extended to nations, especially when, as in the case of the United Kingdom and the United States, they are allied by blood and knit together by love? We are both common inheritors of the traditions and glories of the Anglo-Saxon race, from which we have obtained a spirit of conciliation, a spirit that has so aided the national development of both countries. The time is favorable for the consideration of the question, because the whole world is startled at the new aspect of war, which the progress of science is making a huge engine for the brutal butchery of men and the wanton waste of property. Its increasing cost threatens the basis of national credit and even national solvency. In ten years the cost of European armaments has increased at least 25 per cent, while it amounts to 3 per cent. of the whole earning of Europe. The United States, almost alone among nations, can keep down its warlike expenditure, because it does not consider it necessary to anticipate war with foreign nations. It is here, therefore, rather than in Europe, that proposals for treaties of arbitration might naturally be made."

Mr. John Wilson, of the Trades Congress, and Mr. Cremer, M.P., followed. And then President Cleveland followed with a very short but not over-sweet reply. To us, at any rate, the few words of niggard acquiescence do not seem very hopeful.

REUTER'S Berlin Agency, on the 1st November, reports the total destruction by fire of the Russian town of Kluzin, in the Government of Minsk, which contained 350 houses and several large spirit stores. Many people have, of course, perished in the flames. The extent of the damage done is as yet incalculable.

THE *Graphic* is enlightening the English public on the mysteries of the Pearl Fishery of Ceylon. The pictorial sketches are accompanied by a short notice by Mr. John C. L. Vandort, of Colombo, as follows:—

"The pearl fishery of Ceylon takes place on the pearl banks situated off the north-east coast of the island. A very successful fishery has in

this, the Jubilee year, added nearly £40,000 to the revenue of the island as the Government receives a two-thirds share of the fishery of nearly forty millions of oysters, at an average of £1 10s 5d per 1,000. Each boat carries, in addition to the skipper and a Government-belted subordinate to take 'count,' ten men and ten divers. Each diver attaches one foot to a loop of string, which is fastened around a stone weighing about 40 lbs., and descends, at seven fathoms, having a small basket or net bag suspended around his neck; on reaching the bottom, the stone is sent up for the next diver, as there are only four or five to each boat. The diver remains about a minute or so under water, and sends up about 3,000 oysters, following immediately after the basket and resting beside the boat before his next dive. On clear days the bottom can be clearly seen. Divers in diving costume were tried, but they failed to send up more than about 1,500 oysters at intervals of two or three minutes. The divers are Indians, or Arabs. About hundred boats go out daily, returning in the evening. A Government schooner is in attendance during the fishery. The oysters are collected in enclosures, and sold by auction. To extract the pearls from the shells the oysters are carefully washed. A pearl oyster shell is shown in one of the sketches, on an enlarged scale. The droppings collected at the muddy floors of the enclosures in which the oysters are collected previous to sale sometimes yield valuable pearls. The fishery continued this year from April 2nd to 7th, when the south-westerly monsoons set in and the fishery was closed."

It was a pure piece of luck that diving with diving apparatus did not succeed, or else the whole business would have changed hands long since. The indigenous pearl-fisher would have been as extinct as the indigenous weaver.

THE Land of the Morning Sun is again to the fore:—

"The Government of Japan intend, it is said, to construct fortresses at about one hundred and fifty-three places along the coast. These will consist of three classes. The construction of a first class fortress exclusive of the cost of barracks buildings, and of the ordnance to be mounted on the forts, will cost 150,000 yen, a second class fortress about 140,000, and a third about 80,000."

Verily, Japan is another El Dorado like Hyderabad!

THE diamond, valued at Rs. 20,000, stolen from the Nizam's Palace at Hyderabad, has been recovered by the Bombay Police.

A PROCLAMATION of the Queen of Madagascar, countersigned by her Prime Minister, has been issued rendering all Malagasy women living in concubinage with foreigners liable to the loss of their civil rights and even the confiscation of the property they hold under Malagasy law. The offspring of such connections will be regarded as Malagasy subjects. These foreigners are accustomed to purchase slaves *benami*. The men themselves cannot own human beings, but through native women they are able to purchase slaves and employ them in working plantations and building houses.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE *Journal Officiel* of Paris, of the 1st November, mentions the receipt by the Treasury of 40,000 francs paid in on the 29th October. This amount, recorded as an anonymous contribution, is understood to be M. Wilson's conscience money. So at least the London *Daily News* Paris Correspondent telegraphs. But is it, in truth, conscience money, or is it only *conscience* money? Is not fear of lodgment in prison the motive for the disbursement? M. Wilson can afford to part with 20,000 francs for a party. He has made money enough to be at once callous to the prickings of the soul and capable of resigning any portion of his profits. Such a man, however, must know the time suited to such a departure from the ordinary Rule of Gasp. With the public charges of speculation against him, and the position of his venerable father-in-law in the Presidency of the Republic distinctly imperilled in consequence, this was not the hour for such sentimental weakness. We speak from the worldly point of view, which is also the French point. Such a refund could only aggravate the situation, involving the guilty and innocent indiscriminately. Accordingly, we are driven to suppose that the good President's famous son-in-law had some substantial, and worldly, reason for hastening to clear himself some dread of the law, in fact, in the event of certain expected inquiries. In the Capital of Civilization, Conscience is a fetish, for butt of ridicule. "Honour" is more respected. Convenience most.

It may interest our Indian readers to know that M. Wilson is, what—on the authority of the late Dr. K. M. Banerjee, who wrote on the subject in *Mookenjee's Magazine*—we call a Domesticated Son-in-law, living in the Tuileries, though not on his father-in-law's resources.



THE quiet town of Sirsa in the N. W. P. rejoices in a Patriotic Association, and the patriotism of the Association has taken the shape of a sort of literary movement to the memory of the accomplished incubus lately in the satrapy of Upper India. They threaten to bring out a translation of Sir A. Lyall's *Asiatic Studies*. The *Indian Mirror* seems alarmed at the prospect, and warns the good people of Sirsa against frittering away their resources on such work. Let the *Mirror* be comforted. After Sir Lyall is fairly on the homeward voyage, the funds will not be forthcoming, subscribers will easily forget their promises as they become ashamed of their enthusiasm. There is no patriotism in the matter, nor loyalty, nor admiration. All is tuft-hunting.

A MORE hopeful project, from at any rate the late L.-G.'s point of view, is our old friend Moonshee Newul Kishore's announcement of an Urdu version of Sir Alfred Lyall's *Speeches*, with a portrait. It will be all labour thrown away. We doubt if there will be found a dozen serious readers. But a great printer and publisher can do such things cheaply and can make indifferent things sell to some extent. Besides, the Moonshee can afford, if necessary, to throw away money on even a past Governor. But there is no liability, far less loss, involved.

As a purely literary and commercial venture, the speculation is not promising. The experiment of publishing the speeches of Governors-General has been tried, without much success. Lord Mayo's *Speeches* fell flat on the public. Lord Ripon's were far more valuable. Yet, notwithstanding the party enthusiasm evoked in his favour, the book was scarcely more successful. What is there in Sir Alfred's utterances to command a superior fate for them? He is certainly a good literary workman, but that is not all that is necessary. He has left no reputation as a public man. He has neither done great or good deeds nor spoken golden words. In this he was much like his greater contemporary in power in Madras; he was, indeed, a true, if a poor, copy of Sir Mountstuart Grant-Duff. The Madrassee was a far cleverer man and decidedly a better master of sentences. Yet who cares for his Indian speeches, unless it be some literary hermit devoted to the niceties of expression? On the other hand, the world treasures up the words of great workers like Wellington and Lincoln, even if they are deficient in form. The unlettered Marlborough's casual remarks are valuable, and a single sentence often quoted of Runjeet Singh, who could not sign his name, will keep his memory green as that of one gifted with the prescience of genius. Above all, the sayings of two uneducated men constitute the sacred treasures of two of the greatest religions.

*Vanity Fair* says:—

"I am informed from a very good source that the military conditions of the tributary and semi-independent States of India are the subject of careful study just now at St. Petersburg. Also their relations to the British administration in India and the personal character of their rulers and their advisers."

This is how Russophobia is maintained. *Vanity Fair* has unnecessarily shaken the nerves of the good people at home. There is no practical significance in the news, even if it be true. No doubt, Russian statesmen must be informing themselves about India, as British statesmen have long been studying about Russia. But that, beyond that, there is any particular and serious attention being now paid to the military resources of the native States, their political relations with the British power and the personal character of the Princes, we do not think likely. The truth at most is that poor Dhuleep Singh is talking a deal of rubbish on this as on other subjects connected with India—of which he knows practically nothing—and that some irresponsible Russian politicians and journalists find, in drawing him out and fooling the Prodigal—political as well as pecuniary—to the top of his bent, a pleasant dissipation. For study of the persons and forces at work in the Native States, Russia has yet no adequate means. These *flâneurs* of Moscow and St. Petersburg are rather confirmed in their pastime by seeing the dust it raises in England. It is the ignorance of the British themselves of the state of their Empire in the East that leaves them at the mercy of wags and mischief-makers and gossipers.

POOR Dhuleep Singh has not found generous foes. He has certainly given them sore provocation, but his grievances were great. Much ought to be forgiven a Prince despoiled of his kingdom by his protectors, separated from home, banished from country, and tricked out of religion itself. The British ought to be satisfied with keeping him out of India. His silly tirades are contemptible effusions of a mind

never worth much and now almost gone. They merit only pitying silence. But we see that the manifestoes fulminated by him have provoked angry reprisals. After the lowest Eastern manner, the exponents of the enlightenment of the West are attacking him through his female relations. It is a lamentable degradation—an indecent spectacle. At length the English have discovered that he is not the right article. When Dhuleep has utterly exhausted his power to give champagne dinners, "society" has found out that Dhuleep is no son of his father—has no claim to be the heir of Runjeet Singh. Written records and oral tradition are being laid under requisition to disprove his rights. One of these writers gives the story of Dhuleep's origin, on the authority of Sir Lepel Griffin in his *Punjab Chiefs*, saying—

"The true story of Dhuleep Singh's birth is as follows:—Maharaja Runjeet Singh, though he had sixteen wives and a bevy of slave-girls in his harem, never had but one son, legitimate or illegitimate. This only son was Khurak Singh. Dhuleep Singh's mother was the daughter of a Jat trooper, and according to one story, his father was a man of the same caste. Another version makes out that *Dhuleep's father was a sweeper* who had charge of the Maharaja's dogs. Whichever it was *Runjeet was certainly not the father* and this fact was perfectly well-known to every one. 'Perhaps no court in the world,' says Sir Lepel, 'was ever more depraved than that of Maharaja Runjeet Singh.' He was accustomed to accept their children readily; and whenever a new addition to his reputed family made its appearance, would cynically ask: 'whence this mysterious stroke of fortune?' But Runjeet was not only a brave soldier and a strong ruler; he knew how to abide by his pledged word. 'He was the wisest Indian Prince' said H. Lawrence 'the English Government had ever come in contact with being the only that stood in his engagements.' Had his reputed son, our implacable foe, as he calls himself, shown the same good faith the story of his base origin would have been forgotten."

On the question of Dhuleep's claims, all that is immaterial. Our Government accepted him with open eyes, "with all his imperfections on his head." It is estopped from raising the "previous question."

IN an exceedingly well written "leader," the *Ceylon Patriot* gives a glowing account of the Catholic Archbishop popularly known as Padre Bonjean. He seems to be an ecclesiastic of the true apostolic stamp, full of fervid piety and enthusiasm of humanity, of courage and endless persistence, and impervious to ridicule. He commenced as a bad Tamil preacher, but he did not stop till he had mastered all the vernaculars as well as the English. His charity and desire to do good are exemplary and unconfined to sect or by creed. He has done much for the diffusion of education, by means of vernacular publications and otherwise by the activity of the press. He is indeed a tower of strength to the cause of enlightenment. He lately distinguished himself at the conference called by the Director of Public Instruction by his noble advocacy of national education and his eloquent protest against the niggardly policy of Government.

IN a bright note flavoured with literature and a sarcasm which stands a good chance of being "caviare to the general" in India, the *Statesman* notices the new proposition in England to assert copyright in State literature. Our contemporary discerns in it the hand of the Colossus of Colporteurs of literature now in the Cabinet:—

"Government intends to keep a grip of the copyright of scientific reports, Roils publications, charts and ordnance maps, and some other classes of work in which Mr. Smith has had sufficient sense of humour not to include Acts of Parliament and Reports of Select Committees."

Just so! If the Calendars of State Papers may be reserved for the purpose, why not the Statutes and proceedings of Parliament? Yet the very suggestion of copyright of these is a practical *reductio ad absurdum*. Our contemporary presses this argument still farther:—

"Having taken to the trade of publishing, and asserted their copyright, the Government might do worse than turn on the bookstalls the honest pennies they so much need."

DELHI has again got an English organ, by the conversion of a local advertiser into the *United Service Chronicle*. With the best feelings for our new brother, we can not honestly declare the *Chronicle* worthy of the City of the Mogul. Ill-printed on the worst rag turned out of the Indian mills, and with a subscription of Rs. 12 per annum for a weekly no bigger than half a sheet of the *Indian Mirror*, it is neither cheap nor savoury nor sightly. But the proprietors can mend matters and ought to do so. There are elements of success. The field is tolerably promising, and there is no lack of talent, even though Delhi is far from what it was when it was the seat of the leading journal in Upper India as of the sole comic journal (with pictorial illustration) in India. The number before us itself evidences ability. There is an able, interesting and well-informed article on the Burmese Dacoit as compared with others elsewhere of the same ilk. But there ought to

be more of the kind and of other kinds—leaders, notes, news, and so forth. Above all, there ought to be respectable presentation in a more readable shape and characters. As it is, in tearing off the cover of our contemporary, we tore off a piece of the best part, and we had to ask another with younger eyes to read the leader in part, to enable us to judge. We suppose Delhi is not the Land of Youth only.

THE Panama Canal is the most colossal engineering work now in progress. More than that, it is the greatest international work of the day. The whole world is deeply interested in it. If the world in general seems indifferent, that is the way of the world. The world takes a good deal of time to understand its true interest. Every new project has to conquer the world in its favor. The nations are yet far from realising the full significance of the work going on of dividing the Americas at the isthmus between. If they could anticipate how the future of the inhabitants of the globe must be influenced and even altered by the joining of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans through the neck of land that connects the two grand divisions of the New Continent, they would exhibit a more vivid and a more practical concern for the Panama Canal. Men would hang breathlessly on every piece of information about it. Nevertheless, the more intelligent politicians and social speculators of both Hemispheres have their eyes open to the grand work. As everything virtually depends upon the life of the sublime amateur who has proved himself the Columbus of engineering, they will be glad to learn that M. Ferdinand de Lesseps is on his legs again, after his late illness and the shock of his brother's death. He now attends office as well as the Academy of Science. In the face of the opposition of a part of the American press which has been calculating that by next spring the whole project will come to a dead lock for want of the sinews of war, unless the Government of France permit a lottery for raising the wind, it is something to have M. de Lesseps' assurance, formally given to the Academy, that the Canal will be opened on the 3rd November of 1890, so far as to admit of the passage of 28 steamers *per diem*. It may be true, as the croakers assert, that M. de Lesseps promised to finish the Canal by 1889, but M. de Lesseps is neither god nor prophet. The unexpected difficulties which he has met with, not only in the financing of his scheme but also in the extraordinary havoc caused among his men by disease, fully explain the apparent flaws in his calculation. It is not in this spirit of captious objection that a great man ought to be treated who devotes his soul and all his energies to benefit all mankind by a triumph of ingenuity and science as well as perseverance.

THE age of chivalry—is it gone? Fashions may fluctuate though tastes subsist. Even so the spirit remains though the *modus operandi* of old romance is changed. Our young men, burdened with books and early anxieties and delighting in the *Saturday Review*, have not the time to roam in quest of Peris to save from brigands or Blue beards. Happily, under modern arrangements, their services are not required. They might ride from Dan to Bersheba, or at least from John O'Groat's to Land's End, without meeting with a single call upon their courage or constancy in defence of injured innocence or endangered beauty. Nevertheless, the spirit of adventure is not dead, though it has had to seek for its satisfaction fresh fields and pastures new—usually in distant lands and wild countries. Above all, the spirit of gallant-sacrifice, of unselfish devotion, is far from extinct. It runs like a pure crystal rill under the clay and sands of our whole social existence; turn up the earth with a shovel, and lo! it springs up to the wonder and admiration of our species! It is the working of this fervid earnestness that contributes the romance of our modern life.

An occurrence took place lately in England which comes as near as may be to the deeds of knightly valour of the olden times. It was at Exmouth, a scene consecrated by so much heroism and humanity. It will be interesting to our readers to know that the hero of the recent deed belongs to an old Indian (British) family.

Walking the parade at Exmouth, Mr. S. Rivett-Carnac, son of the former head of the Bengal Police, noticed from the distance signs of distressing excitement among the people who were then crowding on the seashore, though as yet he heard no cries. In India, under similar circumstances, he would from the first have been assailed by a deafening chorus of wailing. Not to lose time that might be precious, he ran to the spot. There he heard cries, proceeding from the very sea, they issued from a struggling woman calling for help. But so far as the

rest was concerned, they were cries in the wilderness. Yes, even in England, at a busy seaport, a young lady who did her best might be slowly drowned to death before a mob of Christians of all ranks, without any of them moving his little finger to save her. For it was by an accident that young Rivett-Carnac was walking out just at the time. That accident was the saving of the young lady. She had been bathing in the sea but had got out of her depth, and was being swept away by the strong current at the mouth of the Exe.

THE Bombay Natural History Institute has not been long in the world before its Honorary Secretary, Mr. H. M. Phipson, announces a discovery. This is that snakes are deaf. Rather a startling heresy, in the face of the popular belief that the Nags are quite a musical tribe! According to the Honorary Naturalist of Duckland, they do not sing, properly speaking, though they might, if so minded, hiss a "star" of the first magnitude off the theatrical firmament; still less do they play on the piano, though some of them are provided with rattles which they sound by way of warning to unwary trespassers into their domains. But they are credited throughout the East with an appreciation of music. That appreciation amounts almost to devotion, for it is often their death. There are many legends in proof of this belief. In the popular imagination, the practice of music is attended with this peculiar danger of attracting not only Nags but also Yakshas, Kin-naras, Gandharvas, and all sorts of spirits of earth and air.

The Nags—Serpents—truly stand foremost in love of music. In fact, they are reckoned about the most esthetic of all these several descriptions of beings. They are said to be dominated by an absorbing passion for sweet sounds and scents and edibles. Confining ourselves to their love of music, wherever it is produced there, we are told, the snakes come and may be found lurking, if properly searched for, or if we knew how to find them out. This may be a mere myth—the hyperbole of belief—but the belief has influenced life to this extent at any rate that we are warned against singing or playing an instrument in fields and gardens, near trees and plants and woods, which afford cover whereby snakes may come to listen unperceived. To descend from the region of popular faith and tradition to hard facts, all the appearances are against Mr. Phipson's assertion. The itinerant snake exhibitors keep up a doleful strain, to which the hooded serpent dances and keeps time, and go on flourishing at it their unclosed fist at which it darts.

More than this, a large profession is supported on the sympathy of serpents for music—the snake-pipers.

Mr. Phipson says that, though deaf, snakes are sensitive to earth vibration. This, of course, is best communicable by dry soil. Accordingly, the interposition of a piece of water, however narrow, between man and serpent, makes for safety. Yes, if the latter does not spy you, the vile reptile, with its knowing, penetrating, relentless eyes! To us, Mr. Phipson seems to make too much of this sensitiveness to earth-vibration. He is contradicted by other facts. Had snakes been so very sensitive, they could scarcely remain in the immediate neighbourhood of man, lurking in human habitations as they do, specially in the rains.

THE Dons had a field day this afternoon. After a great deal of discussion, the proposal of the Entrance Examination Committee, that elementary Chemistry should be included as a subject of examination, was carried. The travail, however, was painful, and there was serious risk of miscarriage. The voting was close, and upon one poll, we understand, the proposition was declared to be lost by the Chairman, Sir Alfred Croft, who was the mover thereof. Subsequently, he was reminded that he had himself a vote to give upon the question, and as that brought about a tie, he had a casting vote. Thus enlightened, Sir Alfred returned to the charge and made the Dons go through another poll, which, with the suggested additions, turned the tables and carried the resolution. The minority, who are very earnest in their convictions, are said to have protested vehemently against this revision of the vote. The meeting adjourned without doing any further business.

*Holloway's Pills.*—In the complaints peculiar to females these Pills are unrivalled. Their use by the fair sex has become so constant for the removal of their ailments that rare is the household that is without them. Amongst all classes, from the domestic servant to the peeress, universal favour is recorded to these renovating Pills; their invigorating and purifying properties render them safe and invaluable in all cases; they may be taken by females of all ages for any disorganization or irregularity of the system, speedily removing the cause and restoring the sufferer to robust health. As a family medicine they are unapproachable for subduing the maladies of young and old.

THE hour for the municipal general election for extra metropolitan Bengal has arrived. This will be the second General Election under the new enfranchising Act III of Bengal of 1884, and a considerable amount of interest centres in it. The three years to which the law restricts the elections, expired in some corporations on the 24th and in others on the 28th of last month. Hence the necessity for the municipal electorate, as well as the Government to exercise their choice again. In the Presidency Division, the 5th or the 6th December has been fixed, or for the larger Municipalities both days, for some wards of the same place the 5th and for others the 6th, for the next General Election. By successive *Gazettes*, the country has been warned of the coming business, and persons interested and specially the agents of intending candidates for civic importance, have been at work to pave the way for themselves and their friends, principals or *protégés*. The contest will be keen at places like Baranagar, where there are no social chiefs dominating the community, as well at places like Uttarpara, where rival chiefs contend for mastery. Santipore too has a bad name, and Dacca has of late years shown a new life.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1887.

### WANTED—THE BUDGET DAY.

AFTER the confusion of parties and principles of late years in this country, it is indeed a welcome sign of the times, a cheering index of the rise in the tide of agitation for political progress, that the unofficial, that is the truly independent, Europeans among us should once more be found deliberately to desire a reform of the political institutions of the land. In an unanswerable epistle, under the hand of their Secretary, the Bengal Chamber of Commerce have come forward to demand the annual presentation of the Imperial Budget for discussion in the Legislative Council of India. The Chamber modestly say that although it might be objected that the present disease of the body politic demands more drastic treatment, yet they content themselves by suggesting "a safe and obvious reform," without recommending "any experimental innovations which a responsible Government might regard as ill-adapted to the existing conditions of the country and the people." No doubt, the native platform of political progress includes more radical demands, but native politicians will nevertheless be glad to join with the Chamber in supporting their present demand. The natives want that and something more; but they would be glad to get this, as a beginning. British interests—even unofficial British interests—are naturally safe in a British Government. British commerce, in especial, has been always represented by an independent member in the Legislative Council, and it is therefore nothing strange that the British merchants should be in no hurry to demand a system of representation. They may well be repelled by the fury and extravagance of the more irresponsible of our agitators and writers. But let them not act unworthily to spite fools. The subject is peculiarly theirs. They best appreciate the freedom of the legislature and the virtues of discussion. It becomes them best, therefore, to take the lead in the reform. Our countrymen need not be ashamed of following. They owe more to the British merchants and settlers than their present leaders care to confess, or perhaps know. Our European fellow-subjects need not make themselves uneasy. Lord Ripon did make an "experimental innovation" when he asked the Chamber to submit a name for nomination to the Council, a process which has been repeated in his successor's time. Repeat and widen that procedure, and you have that radical innovation of which many

Englishmen in India seem to be unaccountably afraid—a representative element in the Legislative Councils.

The Chamber have fortified themselves by quoting the utterances of several Viceroys and Finance Ministers, which go to show that the Government of India are conscious of the advantages accruing from a full discussion of financial measures, and the accession of strength derivable from the support of public opinion. The Chamber do not doubt that the present Government share the opinions held by the Right Hon'ble Mr. James Wilson in 1860, by Lord Mayo in 1871 and by Sir John Strachey in 1877, and they therefore "urgently press upon Government the desirability of making such a change in the Indian Councils' Act as shall permit of the annual discussion of the Budget in the Legislative Council of His Excellency the Viceroy."

We are afraid, that if the reform is to be carried out by an amendment of the Councils' Act of 1861, we may have to wait for an endless number of years. The matter would have to be minuted by the Government of India, considered by the Secretary of State and his hibernating Council—so powerless for good, but powerful for evil—then by the Cabinet, before it could be introduced into Parliament. After it had been once so ushered, there is a double danger. With so many urgent measures for the British Islands standing by, owing to Irish Obstruction and the discussion of Irish questions, what chance is there of the Parliament taking up a purely Indian question? Even in the absence of an all-absorbing topic "at Home," the normal demands of affairs, to say nothing of the exigencies of party warfare, will almost always stand in the way of India's getting the necessary hearing. Then, again, there is the substantial danger that, upon a motion for the amendment of a particular section of the Indian Councils' Act, the Liberal and Radical members might raise a discussion as to the propriety of altering the entire constitution of the Councils, so as to give them a truly representative basis. The whole continent of India, under the inspiration of publicists, agitators, "Congressionists," *et hoc genus omne*, might be relied upon to adopt addresses to Parliament praying for such a wholesale reform, and there cannot be any doubt that a great volume of public opinion in England would be in favor of the granting of such privileges, in some form or other. The Chamber, certainly, are not prepared to face such a contingency, and if, as is possible, the Government of India, in their collective wisdom (which often overrides the personal instincts and predilections of an English Viceroy), be under the same disinclination, there would be an insuperable bar to their asking for any amendment at all of the Councils' Act.

It seems to us that the object is capable of attainment in a much simpler and safer way. From 1861 to 1872, and in the years 1877, 1880, and 1882, it had been found easy to submit the Budget for free discussion. The Government, if really so inclined, need only give one of their money-bills a duration for one year only so as to necessitate its re-enactment *pro forma*, each successive year; and upon the motion for such re-enactment, the Finance Minister could easily hang his Budget Statement. As at present constituted, no motion could be carried in the Legislative Council against the Government, and consequently what the Chamber and the native public (under the present constitution of the Council) equally expect, is only an opportunity for public discussion.

It is not, therefore, necessary to devise any means for the carrying out of the resolutions which have no prospect of being carried. The device which we have indicated, would be quite sufficient to afford that opportunity for the "expression of public opinion on the financial policy of Government," which is the only object aimed at by the present agitation.

In conclusion, we may remark that although, to the best of our recollection, this is the first time such a demand has been made by any of the established Associations, the claim has been previously advanced by political free-lances, who have carried on the holy war on their own crook, in advance of the regular troops. Thus, in the Purulia anti-Income Tax memorial of the 21st January 1886, published in our issue of the 6th February of the same year (and which the Chamber will find interesting reading in the present connection) the following remarks occur:—

"The policy of the proposed Bill is so closely connected with the Budget statement, that your petitioners regret that it should not have been found convenient to introduce this measure in Council as a supplement to the coming year's Budget statement. A regular annual submission to the Council of a statement of the Imperial Finances is in many ways extremely desirable, and if any modification of the rules of business of the Council be necessary, the matter is fully within the competence of the Government to initiate and the Council to sanction, to the great satisfaction and reassurance of those classes of the community who take an interest in public matters and affairs. Failing such a regular submission of accounts and estimates, the occasional cognisance of the same by the Council in connection with money Bills is a gain, from a public point of view, of sufficient value to make its loss, as on the present occasion, a source of regret."

If we recollect aright, there have been still earlier private memorials in which that point was urged upon the attention of the Government of India.

### THE INCOME-TAX.

THE passive endurance of the Indian people is touching. Their meek and abject submission in the presence of police extortion and oppression, is known by all who know the country. This characteristic undemonstrativeness appears on all occasions and under all circumstances, and constitutes no small disadvantage to Government in rightly gauging the condition of the people. We were not a little struck on reading some remarks lately recorded by the Government of Bengal. In discussing the material condition of the people, the Government argued that they must have been well off during the year in question, as, besides abundance of the crops, the realization of the taxes had been satisfactory. The inference would be natural, were it not for the well-known fact that the chapter of untold misery and suffering wrought by the British tax-gatherer remains to be written.

Look at the Income-tax and its administration. Whatever its recommendations in theory, and however liberal may be the instructions issued to the executive officers, it is a terrible source of oppression in practice. The Deputy Collectors in charge of the work in each district, are the very types of the proverbial publican. Their one aim is to turn out the largest proceeds, and for this purpose they adopt a procedure which is hard in the extreme. Their secret instructions to the Assessors never see the light of day, but they must be at complete variance with the law. The assessments are made in a most high-handed manner and invariably fixed higher than they should be. People produce their books and other evidence, but the assessors give no need to them and act on their apparent determination, their *Zid* to place a man in one class who should be in a lower one. If you appeal to the Deputy Collector, you have seldom any redress. If one is strong enough

to defend oneself and appears determined to carry the case through, the Deputy Collectors may relent, and reduce the assessment by a trifle, but adequate legal relief is never obtained. There is better hope on an appeal to the Divisional Commissioner, but by this time one's zeal often cools with the sacrifice already suffered of wellnigh an equivalent of the exaction sought to be avoided. The cases of hardship, however, which reach the notice of the higher authorities, are sufficient, it would seem, to open their eyes to the oppression which is committed. Already, the Commissioner of the Presidency Division has raised his voice against the unsuitability of the Income-Tax, and we think his is no solitary opinion amongst the higher officials. These see, however, vastly little of the evil wrought by high-handed underlings.

The clerks and Mohurirs of the Collectorate are pressed to the Service. How little delicacy, tact or knowledge these display in making assessments, may be easily imagined. The *Bengalee* has furnished some instances of their arbitrary proceedings in the Barrackpore Sub-Division. The case is the same all over the country, only worse in the interior parts. Unpopular as the tax must always be, it is possible, by fair and equitable administration, to divest it of some of its odiousness. But the administration is simply cruel. Owing to the prevailing depression of trade, the assessments of the first year required in many cases to be cancelled, or reduced. But who cares for facts—the first year's assessments are rigidly collected in the year. There has been no revision. We do not know that a revision can be avoided, under any circumstances or under any law that we are aware of, but anything likely to affect the collection is unwelcome to the publicans, and it must be put off as long as possible.

In the metropolitan city of Calcutta and district of 24-Pergunnahs, where the officers act in the presence of a vigilant press and public opinion, things would be, it might be expected, somewhat better. The reality, however, only illustrates the principle of *lucus a non lucendo*. In the Twenty-four Pergunnahs, the presiding officer has hit upon what we suppose an exceptional device for eking out the revenue. If the tax is not paid in time, it is realized, of course, by a distress warrant, but the fine is, will it be believed, the equivalent of the tax, and there are besides the costs of execution. Take an instance, which, out of many, is taken from our personal experience. A ruined man, a brick-maker is assessed Rs. 42. He is heavily involved; he has made no bricks in the year in question, but there are some old kilns on his hands, and his business is only so far assessable. He pleads for mercy, and ends with praying that a juster assessment at any rate might be made. The whole village intercedes, and the assessment is reduced to Rs. 20. The man, however, in his ignorance of the law, or it may be from sheer incapacity, fails to pay in this amount within the legal time, when some day he receives a bailiff's visit and is called on to pay down Rs. 43, that is Rs. 20 for the tax, Rs. 20 for fine, and Rs. 3 for costs. Even Mr. Goodricke will not do this, but it is an admirable way of swelling the revenue. It is as much as to say, Let the assessor bring in as much grist to the mill as he can; if it is not enough, I will increase the store from my place at head-quarters, by levying maximum penalties provided by the law. Still there is no loud complaint. There is, it is true, intense dissatisfaction in the country. Discontent, with the

Income Tax is universal. But the people are habitually silent. Their mass meetings and National Congress seem to be too much for the nerves of some officials. But let them look here at the profound calm on the surface of society, while underneath there is active ferment and commotion. The undemonstrativeness of the people is a natural trait with them, which has now-a-days been confirmed by the all-powerful irresistible British despotism. They are silent under the acutest suffering till their silence is made an argument in support of optimistic official views as to the progress of prosperity.

#### FLOWERS OF SCIENCE.\*

This is a booklet of over a hundred pages 12mo, by the Principal of the Metropolitan Institution, popularly known as Vidyasagar's, and is not unworthy of his position in the educational world. It is a collection of essays in Bengali on scientific subjects, originally contributed to leading magazines like the *Bandhub* and the *Bangadarsan*. The results of the latest researches and the resume of various speculations, modern as well as ancient, both Indian and European, are embodied in the book, which the author has done his best to make agreeable reading.

The style is clear and attractive, at times attaining to the charm of superior eloquence, and though the author is modestly diffident as to its reception by the public, we ourselves feel little misgiving. Its matter and manner certainly make it a distinct addition to the class of vernacular literature of an educational value, for which there is a growing demand. He is, we also understand, the author of several other school-books, in English and Bengali, some of which have been adopted by the Text-Books Committee. His present work is another feather to his cap which more than ever entitles him to take a place among the enrichers of our standard educational literature.

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

##### IS IT RELIGION OR SUPERSTITION?

I have read with pleasure and interest the two articles by "L" named "Is it Religion or Superstition?" It seems to me that he is amazed at the amount of superstition that has crept into every religion of the civilized world. On analysing human nature, we see nothing else in it to recommend religion, but the two necessary elements of conscience,—faith and morality,—which are intimately associated with each other, but which ought seldom to find adequate expression singly in the true realization of the significance of the term religion. To see religion constituted *sans* superstition, we must take our stand on what is generally termed the two essentially solid bulwarks,—I mean, primarily, a belief which is a synonyme for faith, and secondarily, a practice which is the same as morality. An indiscriminate choice of the one exclusively leads to fanaticism which is alike detrimental to the interests of religion as it is sure to lead astray. For strengthening faith only, such measures are adopted by humanity as are calculated to incite not sincerity alone, as is to be expected from the solemn nature of the subject in contemplation, nor self-denial in action in general, but a sort of self-love which is directly obnoxious to the principles of devotion in the right understanding of the word. Amongst the myriads of instances of the great corruption and degeneracy of the age wherein we live, the greatest is the obvious want of sincerity in our devotion. Of course this arises from the "true nature and character" of "the real inner feelings of the heart," as also "from the force of habit formed in childhood"; but these simply cannot be adduced as reasons why better arguments, backed by perfectly reasonable appeals to our moral nature, should not convince us of the fatuity of the course we follow. If we are to trace to its fountain-head the advent of superstition in all religions, we will of a surety fail to do it, if we say that "the very essence of faith is the belief that there is a God and that he is the rewarder of those that seek him diligently" and this only; for as we are told that "superstition is an undefined dread of the unseen;" we see no reason why faith only—of the two elements faith and morality in the constitution of religion—should be pitched upon as constituting the vulnerable point whereon superstition plays its artillery of "slavish fear." Now, in accordance to the sentiments expressed in the words "essence of faith" in the second article, it is surprising to find wherein superstition takes its origin; but if we add something to these, a something which is taken into serious account in the practice of that faith by mankind rationally, it becomes clear as daylight why superstition has ensnared devotion in its contemptible chains of scepticism. This of course is perplexing, but so long as devotion is not the outcome of faith as well as of morality, both

in symmetrical combination, it is useless "to try to convince" mankind, of "the all-important need of honesty." The "essence of faith" should therefore be this "that there is a God and that he is just;" of course, rewarding those who seek him diligently, but *punishing* as well those who happen to stray and wander in the wilderness of world's iniquity. This idea of punishment, this dread of "unseen" misery, this superlative horror of perceptive retribution, this and only this idea has been the "bane and spiritual vice" of our faith alone, it reacts upon morality crushing the germs of common sense in it.

Let this idea of a punishing God be deducted from our faith, and in no time shall we see superstition vanishing, leaving our devotion chaste and sublime, so that it may then, and not till then, clearly indicate its origin from untrammelled faith and effulgent morality. In my opinion, the evils that have been attributed to devotion, as it now exists, in all religions, sprang from the imperfections and voids made by superstition, not in the codes of faith only but in those of practical morality as well.

T.

#### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 23rd November 1887.—In modification of the order, dated the 28th October 1887, Baboo Rajani Nath Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to Nuddea, and is appointed to have charge of the Kooshtea sub-division of that district.

Moulvie Syed Mahomed Israil, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kooshtea, Nuddea, is transferred to Mymensingh, and is appointed to have charge of the Netrokona sub-division of that district.

The 24th November 1887.—In modification of the order dated the 22nd instant, Mr. C. Owen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to Purneah, and is appointed to have charge of the Arraerah sub-division of that district.

Mr. C. C. Mead, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Kurseong, Darjeeling, is transferred to Furrceepore, and is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Goalundo sub-division of that district.

The 25th November 1887.—Mr. A. W. Mackie, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Dinagepore.

Moonshee Dedar Bux, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Khoor-da, Pooree, is allowed leave for three months, under section 138-2 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st January 1888, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

The 26th November 1887.—Mr. C. A. Samuells, Magistrate and Collector, is appointed to officiate as Magistrate and Collector of Mozufferpore.

The 29th November 1887.—Mr. J. H. E. Garrett, who has recently been appointed to be a member of the Covenanted Civil Service, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Patna Division, and is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Shahabad.

Mr. L. Hare, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Dacca, is allowed leave for ten days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. H. P. Peterson, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. L. Hare, or until further orders.

Mr. E. G. Glazier, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Pubna, is allowed leave for one day, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 31st October 1887.

Mr. C. P. Caspersz is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Bhagulpore on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Pubna.

Baboo Mohendro Nath Gupta, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner, Chittagong Division, is allowed leave for fifteen days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 18th proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Saroda Prosad Sarkar, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Furrceepore, is allowed leave for one month, under section 138-2 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 20th proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. J. Windsor, who was in 1886 appointed to be a member of the Covenanted Civil Service, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Chittagong Division, and is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Chittagong.

Mr. T. Inglis is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Sonthal Pergunnah, with effect from the 19th instant.

\* *Bignam, Kusum.* By Surya Kumar Adhikari, B.A. Calcutta, 1294 Beng. (1887.)



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**A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING**

of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta

WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,

on Thursday, the 3th December 1887, at 3 P.M.

**BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.**

1. Maharajah Norendra Krishna to move a resolution that the reply from Her Majesty the Queen, Empress, to the Municipal address, which has been laid before the Commissioners of Calcutta, be deposited in the Archives of the Municipality.
2. To confirm the Resolution of the Town Council recording their hit once a month of Mr. Cotton's services during of natural he officiated as Chairman.
3. The Chairman to lay on the table a picture of Budget for the year 1888-89.
4. To confirm the recommendation of the Town Council for the appointment of Henry Harrison in succession to Mr. C. G. as Commissioner of the Calcutta Port Trust under Section to Act III. of 1887.
5. To confirm the Resolution passed by the Town Council recommending as a special case, a retiring pension of Rs. 600 per month to Mr. Turnbull on medical certificate.
6. To confirm the Resolution passed by the Town Council requesting Mr. Turnbull to act as Vice Chairman during the latter's absence on leave without any extra remuneration, and that Mr. O. C. Dutt be requested to carry on the duties of the Secretary during the same period without additional remuneration.
7. To consider the report of the Special Committee appointed to consider the amended Municipal Bill.
8. To confirm the proceedings of the Special Meeting of the Town Council held on the 13th November regarding the Town Improvements for 1887-88.
9. To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at Meetings held on the 22nd October, 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th November.
10. To confirm the proceedings of the Water Supply Extension Committee at a Meeting held on the 8th November.
11. To confirm the proceedings of the Bustee and Sanitary Committee at a Meeting held on the 9th November.
12. The Chairman to lay on the table vital statistics for the months of September and October 1887.

ROBERT TURNBULL,

Secretary to the Corporation.

29th November 1887.

**THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE**

A Monthly Review of Science, Politics, Literature, Antiquity, Biography, Travels, &amp;c

The undermentioned well-known writers have kindly consented to contribute in its pages: C. H. Tawney, Esq., M. A., F. H. B. Skrine, C. S., G. A. Stack, Esq., M. R. A. S., L. E. Blaze, Esq., John Hooley, Esq., Arthur Diggs, Esq., Edgar Bois, Esq., J. H. Linton, Esq., A. O. Hume, Esq., C. S., J. H. Jackson Esq., A. Stephen, Esq., R. C. Dutt, Esq., C. S., U. Gupta, Esq., L. M. Ghose, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, Dr. G. W. Cline, L. L. D., Barrister-at-Law, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the Hon'ble Mohendralal Suckar, M. D., C. I. E., Baboos Aushootosh Mookerjee, M. A., Issur Chunder Mitter, Bunkum Chunder Chatterjee, Chunder Nath Bose, M. A., Ram Sarma, K. M. Chatterjee, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, Dr. J. N. Bhattacharjee, B. L., D. L., Baboo K. M. Ganguli, B. L., Major G. R. Fenwick, London, and other gentlemen.

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" 24-inches	...	" " 13 0
" 27-inches	...	" " 17 0
" 30-inches	...	" " 19 0

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" 30 by 17½ by 11-in.	...	" " 12 8
" 32 by 20 by 13-in.	...	" " 15 0

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**TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL**

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY

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Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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**OPINION OF THE PRESS.**

"Dr. S. C. Mookerjee, the editor of what is undoubtedly one of the ablest papers in the country in point of literary power is the author of a pleasant little book of Travels in East Bengal. The author is master of a racy style of English which many an Englishman may envy. Humorous descriptions and caustic satire enliven every page. There is throughout a vigour and freshness of style that lends a charm to the veriest commonplace. If there were, however, a higher purpose in the publication of this book than to lighten the weary evening hours of the ordinary reader, we confess to a feeling that the author has failed in such an object. We are afraid there is not

poetry enough in us to body forth in imagination the beauty of the scenes which the author has described in his voyages to and fro between Dacca and Tipperah. Humourist as he is Dr. Mookerjee will remind us of the words of the poet that the point of a 'jest lies more in the ear of him that hears it than in the tongue of him that utters it.' As with the jest so it is with the description. We do not say that the charge is unfounded. Prosaic as we are, drudging away at the desk, perhaps it is that we lack capacity to follow in imagination what the author has doubtless delineated with an admirable pen.

"One of the chief impressions that a reader will receive from a glance at the book is the somewhat strained relation between the Babus and the Anglo-Indians. The author pours a flood of ridicule upon the lordly airs of our 'rulers.' He hits hard indeed in his account of the Colonel at whist enduring a Babu looking on, when on board the steamer, and of the whiteman's condescension in bowing to the black nigger. Happily we in the South are not so badly off in our commerce with the representatives of Western civilization. In spite of several instances of conflict and misunderstanding Englishmen and Hindus pull on agreeably together. But the author, notwithstanding his involuntary feeling of aloofness from the European, is no stranger to the blessings for which the West has laid us in debt. He has a keen appreciation of the enjoyments of this Westernized life of ours. He looks for ever forward and casts no longing lingering look behind at the things with which we have shaken hands and parted. His heart is in the continuance of British supremacy in the East. And agitation is his utmost weapon for the maintenance of his rights. But he will have nothing with spurious agitation. We extract below a paragraph of excellent advice to his brethren of the press. [Extract.]

"The author recounts his adventure with the Railway officials of Scaldah with considerable humour. We feel an irresistible temptation to quote it *in extenso*, but space forbids. How the greenback was no legal tender, why silver of the Calcutta mint was wanted and how the currency question stood stiff and frowning despite the Editors and Magistrates who had accompanied the author to bid him good-bye at the station, and how again with the advent of the Justice of the Peace all objection to receiving the currency note vanished, are all narrated in a style that is fittingly characterized only by the word 'delightful.' In another place the author introduces the reader to the Hindu belief in the auspicious hour for starting on a journey in language of such playful rillery that we make no apology for quoting it. [Extract.]

"The untoward circumstance of the day, the event to which we have already alluded namely the refusal of the Railway officials to receive the currency-note in payment of the fare, elicits the following humorous confession of human weakness. [Extract.]

"The author has some trenchant criticism on the insolation of the Englishman, which makes him inaccessible to the complaints of extortion or plunder by their menials. They are too absorbed to know all that passes about them and the wrongs that are committed in their names are unnoticed as mere trifles for they have rarely any idea of their magnitude. It is only too well known throughout the country how blackmail in the shape of money or provisions is levied upon the inhabitants when the Collector is on tour. It would be difficult to believe the thing could go on under his very nose without his connivance if we did not know his exclusiveness and his distaste for mixing with the people.

"The author devotes the greater part of the book to a description of the people and the external aspect of the country that he passed through in his two trips to Tipperah from Calcutta and back. He has a good deal to say about the customs of some of the people he becomes acquainted with. He makes a discovery of the debris of a Portuguese colony in Tipperah that has become debased in morality and sunk in superstition. Although there is not much in the book that is instructive to the serious student, the grace of diction and the ease of style carry the reader pleasantly through. It would be difficult to rescue such a subject as he has chosen from dulness without his extraordinary command of language.

We cannot promise more than a brief span of life to the book. It will prove what is abundantly clear to the readers of the *Reis and Rayyet* that the author is an adept in English composition. He is a lover of nature and he paints scenes and situations with an artist's pencil."—*The Hindu*, November 7, 1887.

".....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its Chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native Press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold..... The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter house, and a writer who 'thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple'—where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the Doctor advises his fellow-scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous over-much, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the wide-spreading rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The Doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evident in his descriptions of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is their justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible.....

The author is impartial in his censures..... There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman 'to the mango-leaf.' There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons."—*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

"TRAVELS IN BENGAL. Such is the title of a most interesting little work published a short time ago. Its author is Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*, the most original, cleverly-written and interesting journal in India. Babu Sambhu Chunder is one of the veteran Indian writers in English. He is the master of a most happy, racy pleasant style, which you can easily make out from amongst the writings of a hundred different

men. In racy humorous writing Babu Sambhu Chunder has no rival among his Indian contemporaries. He won his first laurels, we believe, by his writings in his own periodical, the *Mookerjee's Magazine*, now long-defunct. In this magazine articles of great learning and excellence appeared, mostly from the pen of Babu Sambhu Chunder. He has written several other booklets. His '*Causes of the Mutiny*,' '*Mr. Wilson's Lord Curzon and the Income Tax*,' the '*Career of an Indian Princess*,' '*Her Highness the late Saundha Begum of Bhopal*,' and the '*Prince in India and to India*' are publications which attracted considerable notice. His latest production '*Travels in Bengal*' is a work of great merit. It is at once a most faithful and interesting picture of natural scenery and life in Bengal, although Mr. Mookerjee does not profess to write a picture of Bengal life and uses his pencil in its portraiture only in passing. The dedication is characteristic. [Extract.]

"The '*Travels*' are travels in East Bengal, travels and voyages between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah. We do not believe many people in this side of India know that there is such an independent State as Tipperah. But nevertheless such a state exists. We will give here a summary of its history in the words of Mr. Mookerjee.—He writes:—[Extract.] Mr. Mookerjee was Dewan of Independent Tipperah for some five years in all between 1877 and 1881. The travels are an account of his voyages to and from Tipperah.

"Those who have travelled in Bengal, particularly in its Eastern districts, which are the districts described in Mookerjee's book, will bear him out in his statement that Lower Bengal is not stale, flat and unprofitable, that, on the contrary, she is the beautifullest country in the world. She has no high mountains, but she has rivers as apparently vast as the sea, to make her scenery grand majestic and she has a hundred rivers ever overflowing with water, thousands of transparent lakes covered with the lily and a hundred beautiful water-flowers, thousands of seas of ever-waving paddy fields, thousands of clusters of bamboo and of great trees dressed in beautiful creepers adorning the river banks, make her the loveliest country in the world. Even a Bengali needs to see and travel Bengal to adequately know her thousand witching charms. For a foreigner it is well nigh impossible to get even an approximate idea of what they are like from a description, however true and faithful. Let us hear what our author has to say on the subject. We read: [Extract.] A paddy sea is thus immutably described:—[Extract.]

"We will quote a passage of another character: [Extract.]

"We could cull many such gems. But space forbids it. We will, however, quote some passages of another kind. Our traveller, though old in years, is evidently young in heart, for no one in the romantic age of youth could be more appreciative of female charms than our traveller. In every other page you find our author describing in terms of enthusiasm some rural girl or woman of beauty. [Extract.] In the next page we find our traveller's attention [Extract.]

"There is the description, physical and moral, of a Colonel, which we cannot resist the temptation of reproducing, although the article has already exceeded the usual length. [Extract.]

"We have now given extracts enough to show that the little book of travels is most delightful reading. It contains graphic descriptions of natural scenery, faithful portraiture of men and manners, and happy, good humoured observations on them. There is not an ill-named or unkind word in the whole book—it overflows in every page with the milk of human kindness. Every observation testifies to the author being a keen observer of men and things, as an example of which we can mention the instructive and interesting chapter on the Native Christians of Portuguese extraction in Tipperah. Again, although the book does not pretend to deal with life in Bengal, the glimpses of that life we find in it are very considerable and pleasant. We will now conclude by recommending the book to all who may wish to spend a few hours amidst happy thoughts and pleasant pictures.—

SA K. C."

—*The Tribune*, Saturday, Novr. 20, 1887.

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Womesh Chunder Roy, L. M. S., Medical Practitioner, Bhagalpur. 30 October 1886."

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1887.

No. 304

## SEBASTIAN.

A TALE OF THE PORTUGUESE IN INDIA.

A brief lay of a storied clime,  
An Orient tale of olden time,  
When spirits fierce from Western lands,  
With dauntless hearts and ready hands,  
Loosed their sails to the spicy breeze,  
And wandered o'er the silent seas  
Which flow among those fragrant isles  
Where India's ocean frowns and smiles.

### CANTO I.

I

In Sundeep's isle, within a cell,  
Whose gloomy walls foreboded death,  
Gave signs of Freedom's sad farewell,  
And trembling Hope's expiring breath,  
Sebastian musing lay.  
His thoughts were manifold and sad,  
And starts and sighs his mind betrayed,—  
He dwelt on visions he had had  
Of joys entombed and hopes decayed ;  
His home is far away.  
He mused on death—the heart's faint beat  
As melts away each tie of life—  
The loss of all we reckon sweet  
In idle peace or stirring strife,  
And then of vengeance thought.  
He looked above—around—below—  
The walls were thick—the door-way barred—  
How could he reach his ruthless foe,  
Through massy wall and watchful guard ?  
Like one who knows the die is cast,  
That life now fears and hopes its last,  
His limbs he stretched and slumber sought.

2

Through a slight crevice in the wall  
The silver moonbeams sweetly fall,  
Lending their softness, charm and grace  
To e'en that cheerless prison place.  
Sebastian sleeps,—by him unseen  
The beauty of that touching scene,  
By him unseen how nature flings  
Enchantment o'er the worst of things,  
And that midst every dreary ill  
Some gleam of brightness cometh still.  
The weary captive sleeps—'tis well,  
For surely did his eyes behold  
That gleam of beauty in his cell  
Brightening those walls so dull and cold,  
'Twould summon thoughts of times gone by  
Too full of early hope and joy,  
For him who feels his race is run,  
His hopes all fled,—his joys undone.

3

Stretched on the ground Sebastian lies,  
But restless is his fevered slumber :  
A hundred visions cross his eyes,  
And thronging horrors none can number.  
He starts,—he curses in his sleep,  
Then sinks again in slumber deep,  
Or groans as though it were he felt  
His life depart, the death-blow dealt :  
And then once more his sleep seems calm  
As though again hope shed her balm,  
And gave him dreams of pleasant hours  
Amid his own clime's orange bowers.

4

Why on a sudden does he start,  
And gaze upon his prison door ?  
The blood is curdling in his heart,  
And paleness spreads his features o'er ;  
For, on his ear there grates the sound  
Of bolts withdrawn, and chains unbound,  
And o'er his soul there creeps the fear  
Of treach'rous murder stealing near.  
The agony of heart and brain—  
The all unutterable pain—  
Of that brief moment shook his frame,  
Till frenzy o'er his spirit came.  
"Well, be it thus,—my doom is wrought.  
Yet dearly shall this life be bought."  
His hand was clenched, his eye was stern,  
"My foes have haply yet to learn  
How fierce is man, when life's at stake,  
And every energy awake."

5

Christian be calm—thou need'st not fear  
Whence comes that silv'ry voice so clear,  
Whose softened accents thus impart  
Sweet words of comfort to his heart ?  
Whose that voice,—that heavenly voice,  
Which makes his torn heart half rejoice ?  
Slowly the dungeon door expands,  
And there before Sebastian stands,—  
Her dark eye bent upon his face,—  
A maiden of the Moslem race.

6

"Christian ! 'tis much for thee I've dared,  
And well I might this act have spared,  
For by the reading of our creed,  
Thou should'st unwept, unpitied, bleed.  
But once—'tis many years ago,  
And little of the tale I know—  
I was a thoughtless infant then,  
With joys that have not come again—  
Thus have I heard my sire say—  
That once amidst a bloody fray,

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.



The horrid tumult of a fight,  
Which shocked the silence of the night,  
With female shrieks and infant moans,  
Many a parent's dying groans,  
A Christian saved me from the sword,  
And I was once again restored  
To eyes that wept and hearts that sighed  
To think that Gul-Anar had died.

7

"Nursed in memory's inmost shrine  
Thro' years of grief and joy, has been  
The deed of that good Nazarene,  
Whose courage saved this life of mine.  
And though his race has done some wrong  
To ours—yet, woman's love is strong,  
And I would fain repay a debt  
Of kindness, I can ne'er forget  
My soul has vowed—nor would I break  
My vow for any mortal's sake—  
That should a Christian ever need  
My lowly aid, I would not heed  
Or sex, or faith, but act as though  
He never were my nation's foe.

8

"I heard a Christian prisoner lay  
Immured within these dungeons old,  
Who fell to Moslem arms a prey  
While battling where the ocean rolled.  
But more I learnt not, save that he  
Was destined never to be free.  
I wept to think upon thy woe,  
And sad I felt to think thy foe,  
Was one who—faint then shone my star—  
Once shared the love of Gul-Anar.  
But Christian, I have flung aside  
A woman's fear—a woman's pride,  
And sought thy dreary prison place  
Because I've sworn to aid thy race;  
And partly that I deemed thy story  
Had something of a soldier's glory."

9

She paused—her bright and beaming eye  
Large, dark, and eloquent,  
Met his fond gaze with soft reply,  
And then was downward bent.  
Sebastian felt the thrilling look,  
And well his heart the meaning took;  
Her hand he seized—and gently prest  
It to his warm and beating breast,  
And in one concentrated gaze  
Told all—thanks, love, and more than praise.

[To be continued.]

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

LAST Christmas fell on a Sabbath. The New Year too begins with the day of rest. The State Dinner at Government House is consequently deferred to next day.

ABDOULLAH SASSOON has married, in a synagogue in Paris, Alina de Rothschild. As the Bengali proverb hath it, water mingles with water.

THE Home remittances from 1st April to 24th December 1887, amounted to £10,505,100.

THE Deputy Baboo Kally Churn Ghose has been appointed an Assistant Superintendent of Survey for the town of Calcutta.

THE Hon'ble Mr. J. Westland resumed, on the 23rd December, his temporary place as Finance Minister and as an Ordinary Member of the Governor-General's Council.

MR. E. J. SINKINSON, having been appointed to officiate as Financial Secretary to the Government of India, received charge on the 17th December from Mr. E. T. Atkinson, who reverts to his own office of Accountant-General, Bengal, assuming charge the same day from Mr. J. F. Finlay.

FOR escape of a prisoner from the subsidiary Jail at Moonsheegunj, the *Dacca Gazette* reports, the Warder has been fined Rs. 30 and the Superintendent suspended until further orders.

A PARTY of tribal Maliks from the Khyber will probably visit Calcutta before long, accompanied by Major Warburton, the Political Officer in the Pass.—Press Commissioner.

THE dates 18th and 19th January 1888, originally fixed for the Secretariat Clerkship Examination, being now declared public holidays, the said examination will be held on the 16th and 17th and 20th and 21st proximo.

THE new Lieutenant-Governor of the N. W. Provinces and Chief Commissioner of Oudh, after Durbaring at Allahabad and Agra and winning confidence and popularity of the right sort, moves on to Lucknow on the 3rd Proximo and remains there for about six weeks.

THE Maharaja of Vizianagram's annual gold medal, valued Rs. 100, for the Benares Queen's College, has been won by Baboo Ridoy Chandra Banerjee for passing the B. A. Examination in English with Honors.

MR. EDWARD MAJORIBANKS, the Gladstonian Whip, and Lady Fanny Majoribanks are expected in India *en route* to Australia, &c., to give the latter a change for the benefit of her health seriously impaired by some months' rheumatic fever. They return home in June next.

ACCORDING to the *Darjeeling News*,

"It is pretty apparent that trade with Thibet has been restored to very great extent, as large numbers of *Tibetan wares* are seen in the bazaar with their wares of kinds, and a really large quantity of wool has been sent off to Calcutta."

THE only surviving son of Mr. R. Chapman, manager of the Sujanpore Sugar Works, walked, in the dusk of an evening, through the open trap door over it, into an underground molasses tank which was being heated by a steam pipe coil, and being severely scalded, died shortly after. The management will be more careful now, we are sure.

ANOTHER matrimonial Police case is reported by the *Dacca Gazette* :—

"A middle-aged Brahmin living within the jurisdiction of the thana of Munshigunge married a young girl on the 16th *Agrahayan* last. A so-called uncle of the bride accompanied her to the bridegroom's house. On the night of the 28th of the said month, *i. e.*, on the 13th day after the marriage, both the uncle and the niece were missing and have not been heard of since. The poor bridegroom has taken proceedings in the criminal court in connection therewith."

This is not an uncommon occurrence in Bengali society, though confined to Brahmans of low blood.

IT is reported from New York under date the 1st December 1887 :—

"A fire which broke out upon a steamer last year was extinguished by the sacrifice of the luggage belonging to a passenger named Heyes. It has now been decided that the entire cargo is liable to indemnify Mr. Heyes. The owners of the steam-ship the *North German Lloyd*, are liable, having delivered the cargo without levying the amount of the general average."

THE Pope's present income is stated to be three hundred thousand pounds. The principal sources are the interest £1,25,000 of the sum invested in English funds, and the Peter's Pence which, notwithstanding the falling off in late years, comes up to £83,000. To these are to be added sums payable for titles of nobility, papal decorations, benedictions in the article of faith, privilege of the altar, private Chapels and others, amounting in all to £1,04,000. A fine revenue for an ecclesiastic, though a trifle for a temporal Prince. But His Holiness has many claims to meet, besides having to keep up the magnificence of the Papacy.

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

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## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

A FRENCH journalist has at length hit upon the solution of his country's problem, or the next thing to it. He has discovered the cause of his country's degradation. Like all grand discoveries, it is an Iliad in a nutshell. France has hitherto been cherishing a canker at her breast. The root of all evil is the foreign element—the

"too tender nurture of men of English blood. Boulanger has an English mother, Wilson had an English grand-father and Waddington—the chief supporter of Grevy—has an English name and education. And the degeneration of the French nation began with adoption of English manners."

Perhaps all the ingenuity of the writer is but old wine in new bottle. Nations, like men, when ill at ease, are apt to scold others and lay their misfortunes to their neighbours' fault. The ingenuity of the French ought to have given more point to their grievance. The Germans, in an analogous period of their history, indeed, under worse circumstances, showed more wit in their complaint. Thus sang they:—

"That France hath put us off to rout  
With powder, which ourselves found out;  
And laughs at us for fools in print,  
Of which, our genius was the mint;  
All this, I easily admit,  
For we have genius, France has wit.  
But 'tis too bad, that blind and mad  
To Frenchmen's wives each trav'ling German goes,  
And proves the father of his country's foes!"

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SIR COMER PETHERAM has started on a tour of inspection of the Mofussil lower Courts. A different welcome awaits him, we hope, from that which greeted Mr. Lotus Jackson at Bhagulpore.

HONORS—well-deserved honors—are falling thick and fast upon our scientific countryman—Dr. Mahendralal Sircar. He has just been appointed Sheriff for the next year. He has, according to the common practice, chosen his attorney Baboo Gonesh Chunder Chunder as his Deputy in the Shrievalty. Dr. Sircar is the fourth native Sheriff this side, and Baboo Gonesh the first Native Deputy. The present, however, is no empty honor, for the Sheriff's personal share of the poundage usually ranges from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 12,000. Hajee Noor Mahomed was in the running with Dr. Sircar. But our friend Noor is shelved for the present.

In Madras, Sir Savalay Ramasawmy Moodliar has been re-appointed Sheriff.

Will Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit be given another term in Bombay?

..

WE are requested by the Honorary Secretary, North Suburban Hospital, to announce a donation of Rs. 50 by Baboo Poolin Behary Roy, of the Narail family, to provide blankets to the patients of the hospital. We join in the hope expressed by Mr. Chrystal that other kindly disposed persons may come forward with their contribution in aid of suffering humanity.

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TINCOURY BANERJEE of the *Praja Bandhu*, Chandernagore, has been ordered six months' correction by the Correctional. Emboldened

by the success of the first for Rs. 10,000, he started a second lottery for Rs. 1,00,000 in connection with his paper and announced the 1st prize at Rs. 1,600. The game was resisted by the Mayor who pronounced it illegal without sanction of Government. There was an appeal to Pondicherry, and the Governor of the French possessions in India upheld the Mayor as regards all future lotteries. Thus checked, the *Praja Bandhu* second lottery did not prove as successful as the first. The lottery over, the winner—a Chittagong man—claimed the amount, but was paid only Rs. 16. The winner came down to Chandernagore and filed a suit in the Justice de Paix. M. Montplank at once declared that it was a case for the Correctional, and called on the Government Prosecutor to take up the matter. Tincoury contended that the case was only a civil one, and, secondly, that there was no contract to pay the promised sum within any specified period, or all at once. He had already paid one per cent, and had, notwithstanding the absence of any chronological stipulation, himself fixed the month called Kalends in the Greek Calendar for satisfaction of the debt. The Court, however, did not appreciate this generosity, found him guilty of fraud and made the correctional order. Tincoury has been allowed 10 days to appeal against the sentence, and been released on bail.

..

ACCORDING to the *Telegram*, Minneapolis,

"There is no Emperor William for the Czar to visit. This newspaper professes to have a special correspondent in Berlin, who makes the following marvellous disclosure:—Three years ago, he says, the Emperor William died. There are only four or five persons in the world who know that he was dead. These include Prince Bismarck, the correspondent of the *Telegram*, and the Crown Prince. It is explained that it is necessary for the security of Bismarck's great work to conceal from the German people the death of their monarch. The person who represents the Emperor on State occasions is an old schoolmaster, named Karl Sommermann, who is himself in very bad health."

Had anything similar appeared in any of our vernacular newspapers, what capital would have been made of it to abuse the native press! After the above, what wonder that the late king of Oudh should be suspected of having been despatched by poison! The practice of burking the death of princes, is an old one. For days, the body of Meerun, the son of Nawab Meer Jafer Khan, struck down by lightning was dragged along in state as if he were alive, until Nature declared herself too unmistakably for deceit and stung the senses of the whole camp into admission of death.

..

THE Irish suit against the *Times* is not to be alone in its glory in this kind of litigation.

"The Londonderry *Sentinel* authoritatively announces that not only has Colonel Dopping instructed a firm of solicitors in London to commence immediate proceedings against Mr. Gladstone and Professor Stuart, M. P., but he has discovered the latter's informant, and is about to have an action for criminal libel commenced against that individual. The alleged libel consists of statements made by Mr. Gladstone in his recent Nottingham speech, based on information supplied to him by Professor Stuart."

That will probably be the first case of libel against an ex-premier.

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A EUROPEAN *Suttee* may seem a contradiction in terms, but such a marvel has taken place in the heart of Christendom. A Christian British couple of education, has been living with a family at Lewes. The lady was particularly an accomplished woman, being not altogether unknown as a writer of Fiction. They were poor or had be-

come so. In this state, the husband, Mr. Gillard, fell ill and lingered on. Apparently, Mrs. Gillard earned the bread of the family, as best she could, by her novels, under the professional name of Miss A. M. Butler. On the 12th September, Mr. Gillard had a sudden accession of his complaint, and died. There was a call for the surgeon in the town. Before his arrival, Mrs. Gillard asked to be left alone with the corpse. So her mother and Mr. Thomas, the master of the house, left the room. Almost immediately, report of a gun was heard from the room. They hurried back to it to see. But they could not enter; the door was locked from within. It was forced open, of course. The sight they beheld was horrifying. Mrs. Gillard was stretched on the floor in a pool of blood. Life was extinct, she had shot herself through the heart with a revolver. She would not survive her husband but go to the grave with him. Alas, poor Mrs. Gillard - the living!

THE *Madras Standard* sums up the graver irregularities in the Morgan-Ross case under the following dozen heads or so!—

*“Extraordinary privileges to a prisoner.”*

1. A *Special Jury* is empanelled
2. The Advocate-General is *permitted* to defend the prisoner.
3. The Sessions Court is removed to Appellate Court to spare Ross the indignity of standing in the dock.
4. The prisoner is allowed a seat at the bar table, so that no one can distinguish him from others.
5. The prisoner is called a ‘British subject’ in the Calendar of offences, whereas other ‘British subjects’ are called ‘labourers.’
6. The Court is kept as *private* as possible—an army of Policemen commanded by Weldon, Simpson, Upshon, Fitzpatrick, &c. guarding the defences.

*Privileges to Advocate-General.*

1. An important case demanding a *Special Jury, a Special Court* a *Chief Justice* to try it, is not represented by the highest law officer of the *Crown*, viz. the *Advocate-General*, but he is actually permitted to defend the prisoner *against the Crown* in a criminal case in which a *law officer* is the accused.
2. The Advocate-General is permitted to enact the solemn farce of notifying that he appears for the prisoner in his private capacity, although he is present in the full blown gown of his office.
3. The Advocate-General having been permitted to speak for the prisoner, next seeks to hamper the prosecution by attacking the Crown Prosecutor, Mr. Shaw. Shaw has Branson having on to his neck as a millstone. This led to many a legal farce.

*General.*

The Eurasian and Native gentlemen on the *Special Jury List* should think it a compliment that they were challenged. Morality can be looked at through variously coloured spectacles.

The Native public were treated in a high and mighty fashion by Weldon's Army, for they were denied admittance when Europeans and Eurasians were allowed to enter with impunity. Several respectable native gentlemen felt their exclusion from the court as unfair. Why exclude one class from a public court?

And yet, only the other day, the *Hindu*, noticing Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, was happy in the commerce of the two races down South. It would not seem that the cordiality of the whiteman, upon which our brethren of Madras felicitated themselves, was cordiality of another kind. “Sammy” apparently possesses a more heavenly temper than the Baboo.

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THEY are supping full of horrors—the combatants on our side in the Burma war—the men who have fought and bled and not suppressed the everlasting nuisance of the Dacoitee.

Honour to whom honour &c., no doubt. But then the integrity of the principle demands Dishonour to whom dishonour is due!

We wonder what *kudos* is contemplated for the brave Mulligattawny military. Certainly, the deeds of the Southern regiment of foot ought not to go without notice. Here is the newspaper record of its services:—

“This regiment and this regiment alone, was the cause of all the stories afloat last year as to the bad behaviour of Madras troops under fire. The 12th Madras Infantry have, in the last three years, murdered two of their native officers; fired at a British officer of the regiment; and written threatening anonymous letters to the Commander-in-Chief.”

The honor of the whole military profession demands a searching inquiry.

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THE following incident is reported from the town of St. Paul, during the President's tour in the North-West, and proves the existence of Caste even in America where equality is the law:—

“It appears that an United States Senator, a person of course of high position in his own district, happened to marry a pretty milliner. The ladies of the town utterly refused to know her, and she was entirely excluded from Society in St. Paul. When however she journeyed

West with her husband, she was entertained by President and Mrs. Garfield, and received by the wives of the State officials and statesmen generally. Her husband's position and her own acquaintance with Mrs. Cleveland marked her out in the ordinary course of things as one of the six principal ladies who were to wait on Mrs. Cleveland. The other five ladies however peremptorily declared that, ‘if the dressmaker was going to be one of the number,’ they begged to decline. The difficulty was got over by enlarging the number to 206, and thus rendering the honour of selection one of little value. Even then however the other ladies only consented to be present on condition that they were not ‘expected to speak to the dressmaker.’ The curious result followed that the only person who could talk intimately to Mrs. Cleveland was the despised and tabooed ‘dressmaker,’ and that the only lady whom the latter could claim as a friend was the Presidentess of the United States.”

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THE Behar planters, it would seem, are not satisfied with Mr. Hudson's counterblast to the declamations of Mr. Stobie. An attempt is apparently being made to secure certificates of good character from native sources. A *Brahmin Visitor* at Jaintpore, has been pouring forth his epistolary eloquence in the columns of the English papers, in praise of the Anglo-Saxon management of Indigo Factories. Of course, the same certificate will do for the whole species. In these days of religious and social chaos, it is difficult to draw any ideas of identity from the *nom de plume*. For all that we know, he may be a Brahman Christian, a phrase in actual use, and if that be allowable, why should not there be Brahman Brahmos? Either way, the opinion would be that of a native of the country. But the point of the enquiry is, whether the hospitality of the Factory has not quickened the visitorial perception of the fitness of things. In earnest, if this certificate is to have any weight, the correspondent ought to unveil himself. The public can then judge for themselves.

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THE *Tirhoot Courier* gives the following account of the litigation in respect of the Ramnuggur Raj from the struggle of the late Raja Sahab Pralad Sen:—

“After much litigation Sahab Pralad Sen succeeded to the *gaddi* as the heir of his deceased son. This gentleman had three wives. The first two are dead, only the youngest is now living. Her name is Rani Nau Ruch Debi. She claims to hold her husband's property during her life. But Mohan Bikram Shah, a son of the daughter of the first wife, claims the whole Raj by virtue of a will of the late Maharaja. The District Judge of Chapra has granted probate of this will; and the decision of the District Judge has been upheld by the High Court. The young Rani, however, has got her name registered under the Land Registration Act for the whole sixteen annas of the Raj. The grandson's application for registration of his name has been rejected, successively by three Courts, viz., first by Mr. Bright, the Sub-Divisional Officer of Betia; secondly, by Mr. Worsely, Collector of Motihari, to whom Sahibzada Mohan Bikram Shah had appealed; and thirdly, by Mr. Boxwell, the Commissioner of Patna, to whom a second appeal was preferred. The matter, we hear, is now pending before the Board of Revenue. The young Raja, instead of instituting a regular suit for recovery of the property, is, we understand, trying to obtain possession by winning over the old *amla* of the young Rani to his side, and using them as tools to bring over the tenantry to his side. Among others, one Gokul Pershad, a highly influential *amla* of the young Rani, has gone over to the young Raja and, in attempting to advance the interest of his new master, with greater zeal than it was safe to display, has got into trouble.

Mr. M. L. Rahman, Barrister-at-law, has gone to Betia to defend Gokul Pershad.”

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UNDER the Inland Steam-vessels Act (VI of 1884), Naraingunge is notified to be a place for the survey of inland steam-vessels, and the Locomotive Superintendent of the Dacca State Railway is appointed Surveyor for same. The Sub-divisional Officer of Naraingunge is also appointed, under the same Act, as the officer through whom certificates of survey of vessels shall be delivered, and notices sent to owners or masters when certificates are ready for delivery, and by whom expired, cancelled, or superseded survey certificates shall be received. The same officer is further empowered to receive declarations of the surveyor.

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THE week's *Gazette* notifies the acting appointment of Mr. G. C. Sconce, the third Judge of the Calcutta Court of Small Causes, as the second Judge from the 13th November 1887 in the place of Mr. R. S. T. MacEwen. Mr. T. Jones gets a temporary lift from the fourth to the third Judgeship, Baboo Sreenath Roy acting the fourth Judge. The Baboo, however, has gone on 3 months' leave, Mr. R. K. Sen, Registrar and Chief Ministerial Officer, now acting the fourth Judge, and Mr. Abul Hassan (Barrister-at-law) acting for Mr. Sen.

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THE *Calcutta Gazette* of the 7th gives the revised boundary of the Barrackpore Cantonment.

THE examination for the Gilchrist Scholarship will commence on Monday, the 9th January 1888, at the Presidency College.

MIAN GUL, alias Hafiz Abdul Hannan, the senior and elder son of the late Akhund of Swat, died of cholera on the 2nd September last. —Press Commissioner.

THE administration of Native States may be all that the Residency or Political Agency are pleased to imagine against it, but the administration *has* of the *Corps Diplomatique* itself is not the pink of perfection. This is the example of law and justice presented to the powers and the people of Hyderabad by the Politicals posted among and upon them. There is in the British cantonment of Bolaram a man of the name of Makhan Lal. He had been a clerk in the P. W. D., but had left that lucrative but uncertain sphere with such pickings as he could betimes, to set up business on his own account. He is now *uncle* of the parish. He has for neighbours and friends one Ramiah Shroff and his wife. One day, in the course of their neighbourhood and friendly intercourse, he quite surprised them with his particular attentions. They were arrested at his charge of stealing within his house. Not only were his attentions particular but his procedure peculiar. He invited them in the usual way and quietly sent for the Police and made them over to their tender mercies. While they were thus in confinement, he proceeds with his friends of the Police to search Ramiah's house, in the absence of its master and mistress. Nothing was found there to connect them with the alleged theft. So they were on Monday next allowed to go home, after having been in *durance* for 27 hours from 1 O'clock in the afternoon of the day previous.

ON Tuesday last, one of the Oudh Princes, Jam Jah Ali Bahadur, whilst returning home from the Belvedere Garden Party, met with a serious accident. His carriage collided with a dashing equipage supposed to belong to Nawab Khas Melfal, and of course the "weaker vessel" had to go to the wall. The Prince, in jumping out of his carriage, broke his leg, and was lying on the ground encircled by the usual helpless crowd of gaping bystanders, when a good Samaritan in the person of Prince Mirza Jehan Kadr happened to pass by the same way. Taking in the situation at a glance, he took the wounded man and brother up in his own carriage and carried him to his own (Prince J. K.'s) apartments in the Sultan Khana and procured the prompt attendance of the local practitioners of the healing art. The bone has been set and the patient is in a fair way towards recovery.

THE Hon'ble Robert Steel is reappointed an Additional Member of Supreme Council.

THE Viceroy returns to the capital next Saturday. Lord Dufferin arrives at the Scalda Railway station at 5-15 P.M.

MEMORANDA or Agreements furnished to, or made or entered into, with the Army Clothing Department, by contractors for the due performance of their contracts, are exempted from stamp duty.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

SIR STEURAT BAYLEY'S appointment of a Commission of Enquiry into the working of the Sone Canals, suggests some obvious reflections. The Commission is expressly due to Sir Steuart's personal action in the matter. The vagaries and highhanded proceedings of the Irrigation Department in Behar, as elsewhere, have long been a subject of complaint. But the sufferers have hitherto cried in the wilderness. In the usual way, their complaints reached the Government through long official channels. These channels of communication, like the Irrigation channels, often serve the purposes the very opposite of what they mean to serve. The complaints reach in a state too pulpy or attenuated for fair recognition. And the Government action is, in consequence, of the stereotyped kind—upholding the proceedings of the subordinate agency. In the case before us, the same result would, we think, have followed, were it not for the Head of the Government's personal experiences and direct contact with the complainants. So far as the Commission is due to this influence, official tours serve an important function in a Government essentially bureaucratic. The utility

of visits so intelligently and sympathetically conducted and bringing officials face to face with the people, goes without saying.

TALKING of official tours, we have, for some months past, observed with some satisfaction signs of a change of policy in the present Government of Bengal. These peregrinations of District and Divisional Officers were used to be insisted on with a rigor, and hard and fast rules were from time to time prescribed on the subject, which were a source of no little uneasiness to the officers themselves, as well as of considerable derangement and dislocation of official administration. Sir Rivers Thompson was obdurate on the point and came down hard on those officers who failed by even so small a difference to fulfil his hard and fast rules. His successor seems to be less sensitive on the point, and although he has been noticing the subject in his late Resolutions, it is only with a light touch, and we are gratified to see that, in a recent document, in referring to the complaint which has been urged regarding the serious interference which these official tours exercise with the disposal of criminal work by Sub-divisional officers, he has declared that the subject will be reconsidered. Official tours are, in most cases, pure shams, and mischievous, in so far as they entail expense, and bring real work to a standstill. They have their uses when they are performed for serving special purposes, but inspections as now conducted are a farce and a delusion.

THE Income Tax was rushed in 1886 through the Legislative Council upon a plea of urgency, before the country had time to be thoroughly awakened upon the subject. We confess to a shrewd guess that expediency had as much to do with the manner of its birth, as urgency. The blow fell so unexpectedly, that public opinion suffered a sort of stupor. The operation had been performed before the patient had time to understand the import of the proposals. When the deed had been done, many sat down silently to suffer thereat, thinking that protests would now be vain, who, had time been given, would have rent the welkin with their protests. The persons under the personal influence of Viceregal magnetism, were disarmed, we suspect, many of them, upon the plea of public necessities. With the news of the projected increase to this obnoxious tax, the public seem to be awaking to the true perception of their miseries. The canny Scots, thrifty of their pounds, shillings and pence, assembled on the occasion of the festive day of their patron saint, have almost by a by-play given vent to their feelings against this hated impost, and indeed it would seem that the Scots had not the monopoly of those feelings, these being shared by their English and Irish guests. We quote the *Englishman* :—

"Railway extension, frontier defence, native loyalty, and financial exigencies were among the subjects upon which the Chairman touched with excellent sense, perfect taste, and catholicity of spirit. His remarks on the Income Tax are perhaps most deserving of note if only because of the remarkable outburst of enthusiasm with which they were received. 'I trust,' he said 'that in the near future it may be found possible to revert to those forms of taxation which, while they existed, this country never felt, and the repeal of which has not benefited a single inhabitant. Direct taxation on income is utterly untried to the people of India, and experience has shown how ineffectual a return it brings compared with the wide dissatisfaction which it causes.' This is the popular verdict on the Income Tax in a nutshell, and it was impossible to listen to the roar of approval with which those opinions were echoed without feeling that noble sympathy was dead against the Government in this matter. There was no mistaking the nature of the demonstration; it was no mere confident capture of the moment, but a unanimous condemnation of the obnoxious impost that has been known in India in recent years."

ON the 23rd ult., the foundation stone of the Public Jubilee Hall was laid by the Commissioner of the Chutia Nagpur Division. It had been intended that the function would be performed by Sir Steuart Bayley, but as His Honor's programme for those parts has been indefinitely postponed, the good folk of the District had to take the next highest functionary available. The occasion was remarkable as the first appearance in public of the Maharaja of Pabna after many many years. He was accompanied by several of his sons. The site (well-selected) belongs in Zemindari right to the Maharaja, who has signified his desire of not taking any compensation therefor. The remaining interest in the land belongs to his richest son, and it is to be hoped that he will follow, in this at least, his father's example. The building is intended to accommodate the Municipal and Road Cess Offices, besides providing for a Public Hall and Library. Mr. Stevens, in addressing the assembly, declared his regret at the absence of His Honor, and satisfaction that a poor district like Maunbhum should

have been able to launch such a scheme of permanent memorial, after spending right royally on more evanescent demonstrations. Passing to the question of municipal self-government, the speaker declared his satisfaction at the success of the elective system in municipalities. For himself he had never had any doubts or misgivings, there were officers who had some misgivings, but they had for the most part been quieted. He was always for giving fair play to such corporations, and appealed to his course of conduct as the head of the Suburban Municipality to show that he never attempted to override the opinions of the Commissioners, although after hearing all that he had to say, they might outvote him, and he hoped that all the officers under him would act in the same spirit. Alluding to the approaching elections, he trusted that the people everywhere would show their interest in the elections. It was not necessary that there should be an actual electoral contest in every circle of representation, for it was sometimes the case that the candidate or candidates were so well-known and appreciated that no one came forward to oppose them; this need not be interpreted to denote that the electors took no interest in the elections. But he fervently hoped that he would not be called upon to report commissioners for Government nomination on account of the failure of the people to nominate members for election. That indeed was the true index of popular indifference to the elective system. Passing to the question of the District Boards, he said that the District was not advanced enough for such progress, owing to the paucity of an educated indigenous population. As soon as it came up to that standard, he would be glad to introduce the new constitution.

Mr. Stevens' remarks were heartily applauded by his audience, and we think they deserve publicity at the present juncture, when the country is on the throes of the new elections, and the public are discussing the resolution of the Local Government upon Local Self-Government. 'The arrangements were good, the attendance respectable, the weather Queenly, and there was only one back-ground wanting to the panorama, namely, that a certain redoubtable officer, a confirmed sinner against corporational liberties, should have been there to listen to the sermon.

THURSDAY'S Special General Meeting of the Corporation was an extraordinary meeting. The first business was the reception of the Queen's reply to the Jubilee address presented by the Chairman in person at Windsor. Her Majesty was gracious enough to receive the address of the Corporation and hand over a reply with her signature. 'Sir Henry Harrison now presented the Reply to the Commissioners, and they, with effusive demonstrations of loyalty, Resolved to deposit the same in the archives of the Municipality. They then proceeded to the next ceremony. The Commissioners confirmed the thanks of the Town Council to Mr. Cotton, for his Chairmanship during Sir Henry Harrison's absence on leave. Everything betokened that the day would be remembered as a red letter day in the Corporation. The Commissioners seemed at peace with themselves, and were evidently prepared to be at peace with the world. Waxing more and more liberal as they proceeded, when the next business came on, the Commissioners increased the pension from Rs. 500 to Rs. 600 for their retiring Secretary. All of a sudden, a change came over the spirit of their dream—as though an erratic but evil star had shot into the firmament its baleful presence. All their ardour and liberality forsook the Commissioners, when they were called on by the Chairman to sanction the appointment of Mr. O. C. Dutt as temporary Honorary Secretary to the Corporation, during Mr. Turnbills' tenure of the Vice-Chair while Baboo Gopal Lal was away on leave of absence for 3 months. Not that they were averse to the honorary character of the acting appointment, for they had, on various occasions, availed themselves of Mr. Dutt's labors, outside his own legitimate sphere in the Corporation, as well for consideration as *without*, both to the advantage and the disadvantage of the Corporation. But they were evidently afraid to acknowledge him openly as their Secretary or their Vice-Chairman, which latter place he had left for his own good and the good of the Municipality. There was an animated debate. The incidents in Mr. Dutt's career as the first native Vice of Municipal Calcutta, which drove him from office, were unearthed to give point to the discussion. The Chairman was strongly in favor of Mr. Dutt. He is too good a Christian not to forgive and forget. He would not allow the indiscretions of bye gone years, over which a veil had been drawn, to be made

anything of now. There was a fierce fight. It was doubtful on which side the victory would lie. In this state of painful suspense, the obliging Vice-Chairman came to the rescue. He was willing not to take his leave before the final retirement of Mr. Turnbull next March and the appointment of a permanent Secretary. So the matter dropped. That, however, only postpones the question of Mr. Dutt's eligibility to the Secretaryship or to his own lost place in the Corporation.

EVERY inch a Sastri, is Natasa Sastri of the Mysore Archæological Department. He is too deeply penetrated by European enlightenment, in fact he is too much of a modern, for serene unconsciousness, but he shows all the courage of the true Pandit. He has put in a note by way of his evidence before the Public Service Commission. It is a scathing exposure of how men are appointed and promoted in a Department in which one might suppose there was no room for jobbery. But all depends upon the spirit—the sphere is an accident. As in the Bengali story, the corrupt placeman can make money out of the office of counting the waves of the sea, so the genuine uncle—bureaucratic not financial—will not hesitate to make the dry bones of Palæontology or the shapeless *debris* of antiquities or the Babel confusions of Linguistics, or any other mysteries of any other confounded "ity," "tics" or "ology" to minister to his inordinate affection for his nephew. The Prince of auctioneers could advertise mythical paradises of country-seats and even sell them—and their purchasers into the bargain. Your British Indian official jobber jobs away the most impossible offices, even though the result be to make learned Orientalists and profound Hindu or Mussulman philosophers and theologians of innocent Europeans. But we dare say the reader is impatient of our reflections and would much rather hear the Southern Brahman. Says Natasa Sastri:—

"It is true that Dr. ———— has been appointed because it was stated he had a 'knowledge of the Dravidian Languages.' This 'knowledge' for an epigraphist must be thorough and not a smattering; else it is worse than useless. Without meaning any disparagement to Dr. ———— I can say with confidence—a confidence acquired and strengthened not alone by my intimate acquaintance with the nature of his work in which I have spent five (pecuniarily to me fruitless) years, but my acquaintance with the European so-called Dravidian scholars,—that a native scholar is alone competent for this work. Even as regards Dr. ———— for whom I have great regard, I must, if truth must be told, say that great though his reputation be as a European scholar of Sanskrit and Gujarati, his knowledge of Tamil is nothing. I am aware it will be said that a European is required to bring to bear on the facts collected his faculty of generalization; but even granting that this generalizing faculty must come from the European alone, it must be admitted that a generalization to be of any value must be based on solid facts. I know a generalizer or two who will write the History of India from a single fragment of an old buried pot, or from the stump of a weapon built of brick and chunam on the tower of a temple, or from a few mispronounced letters of Dravidian alphabet; all this is generalization run mad, and such are not the generalisers we want. Facts must be first collected patiently and intelligently, and for this I should prefer one who has too little rather than too much of this generalizing faculty. Further, even if the European has all the Dravidian scholarship of a Kamban, he can do no independent work with the ancient inscriptions of South India. As European he cannot enter the inner parts of the temple in which worship is performed, and where alone the most valuable of the ancient inscriptions are to be found. The only exception to this is the Tanjore temple, where Europeans have been allowed to go round the Garbhagriha (sanctum sanctorum) and a few ruined temples. But there are hundreds and thousands of temples in South India with a humble exterior but a rich interior. A European can go only up the flag tree—the outermost part of a temple. So his scholarship, even though it were of the best sort, is of no avail as long as he cannot personally examine the inscriptions. . . . Going to the banks of the Danube to pick up an Epigraphist may have a whimsical kind of grandeur about it, but for real useful practical work, the banks of the Kaveri or Krishna ought to be searched for the right kind of man."

THE press and the public of India have, generally speaking, a very low opinion of the *morale* and usefulness of their Police. Nor is there any chance of improvement unless the system of recruitment be radically changed and the superior appointments given for reasons of merit and not patronage and jobbery. The eminently peaceful and law-abiding character of the masses of the population goes a great way towards compensating for the inefficiency and worse of the supposed guardians of peace, who, in the Bengali adage, are more of devourers than protectors. We learn from the *Statesman's* local correspondent, that one of these wolves in sheep's clothing, an Inspector of Police, J. R. Skilling by name, has been just spotted at Delhi. It would seem that he had caught a regular wild Tartar in his intended victim, Jungli Mull, described to be a native merchant, who complained that the Inspector on the 14th October, together with two natives, who personated police-constables, trespassed into the mer-



chant's house, frightened the inmates away and abstracted cash by breaking open a box and an almirah. At the trial before the Divisional Judge with a Jury, the accused was found guilty of simple house-trespass and violation of duty as a Police officer, and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 50, in default, to six weeks' further imprisonment. No wonder that the local native community appeared to take a great interest in the proceedings. It is to them a matter of life and death, nay, a question of *izzat*, which is dearer to many of them than life itself. If the Englishman's house is his castle, the family residence of a respectable native is to him a *sanctum sanctorum*, the defilement whereof by an unauthorised intrusion he would resist to death. The protection of life and property is the greatest claim of the British Government upon the gratitude of the masses, but the tyranny of the myrmidons of the Police, high and low, is a chronic cause of discontent and dissatisfaction, fraught with danger to public safety and tranquility. As regards the particular case in question, the sentence is adequate enough for the offence proved, considering that it involves ignominious dismissal from the public service. The case will further restore confidence in trial by jury.

• THE following anecdote of a former Governor ought to be recorded though it has been some time before the public :—

"When Sir Richard Temple was riding coach-horse on the contract whirlwind, and directing the famine storm in Behar, he entrusted his gubernatorial person to a bamboo cart, and the charioteering of Paddy H. When they got near the factory at which they were to breakfast Paddy took a short cut across country. Presently they came to a bit of a ditch. A flick of the whip, a wild Irish whoop, and the light trap was over it. But Sir Richard did not relish the novel experience; said he thought he'd get down and walk the rest of the way. 'Dhrivelling idiot' said Paddy to his assistant, who was doing syce, as they left Cæsar in the middle of a big *zgrat*, and drove on. Another planter was much more polite. Sir Richard fell asleep in the drawing-room, a few minutes before dinner was announced; and dinner was kept waiting for him—and for his hungry host and hostess—till next morning."

It is lucky for Pat and his neighbours that he perpetrated his practical joke on a Governor who was accustomed to roughing it on the road or across the pathless country. The Gubernatorial Dick could enter into the Hibernian Jehu's humour. Suppose it was Macallum More, instead. The blood of all the planters would scarcely have atoned for the slight upon the satrapy involved! Certainly, the whole district service would have been severely rated for not turning out to keep him out of harm's and ridicule's way. Who does not remember the ire of Jupiter Junior when he travelled all through Berhampore and city Moorshedabad *incog*, without an "ovation" till he reached Azimgunge, where he was recognised by the astute Baboo Agent of the Nulhatee line, and there and then improvised his navvies' and menial staff into a guard of honor for the Lieutenant-Governor out in his dominion to see things for himself. In grateful acknowledgment, the great man proclaimed the Baboo as the first gentleman in Asia, and otherwise served him substantially.

The other anecdote too is quite thrown into the shade by the feats of the "canny mon" in the same quarter. If Sir Richard fell asleep in the drawing-room, Sir Macallum spoilt a dinner to the station in his honor, and apparently deliberately starved the ladies and gentlemen assembled by remaining the whole day in his closet writing, at the house of his official host! Never was such savagery known since Warren Hastings allowed the Begums of Oudh to be put on torture. In another community, the insult would have been wiped out by drawn blood. The retired despot probably does not remember the offence he gave.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1887.

### OFFICIAL VIEW OF THE PEOPLE'S CONDITION.

WE have by this had enough of the usual stereotyped official optimism as to the condition of the people. We do not say it is uncandid. But men's opinions are so imperceptibly varied by their feelings—the wish is so truly father to the thought—that there is too great reason for officials to be careful how they draw inferences from facts which come

under their observation. Of typical opinions of this kind, may be cited the following. Mr. Forbes, the Collector of 24-Pergunnahs, writes :

"To a visitor from Behar, with its dense and underfed population, the contrast presented by the agriculturists of this district is very striking. Rents on the whole are extremely low and very difficult of enhancement, for the Bengali rayyet knows his rights and clings pertinaciously to them. The soil is fairly good and its cultivation simple and inexpensive, and markets for the sale of the produce within easy reach. The result is that leaving aside an occasional year of exceptionally unfavorable rainfall, the Bengal rayyet has little to complain of, and we find him indulging in luxuries...."

The Commissioner of the Presidency Division, in quoting the above in his Administration Report, adds in the same strain :—

"I think there is no doubt that the condition of the masses of the people is steadily improving. They are better housed, better fed, and better clothed. They use shoes and umbrellas and can hardly be distinguished from the *bhadralok* so far as raiment is concerned. They spend more money in marriages and other ceremonies and sometimes indulge in luxuries, but there is a great want of thrift and economy. The lot of persons with small fixed incomes is, notwithstanding the fall in the price of good-grains, still very hard. They are obliged to deny themselves the small luxuries which their neighbours can afford, or to run into debt. The income tax tells hardly on them."

Mr. Smith is always harping on this want of thrift and economy. But we wonder where he got open evidences of the kind of prosperity on which he bases his conclusion, if it were not for this very want of thrift and economy. It is their better food, and clothing, their umbrellas and other luxuries, which furnish him the data for his theory, and if these were to disappear with the growth of a rigid thrift, the people would present a too wretched appearance to be at all satisfactory, not to say that it would at the same time remove all the evidence which now supports his views. Indeed, we are of opinion that it is not this appearance of comfort which furnishes an adequate proof of real prosperity in all cases. There may be, and there is, progress in many cases, but the question is whether it does not fall short of what it should and could be under a settled Government like the one under which we live, if there were a more sympathetic and just distribution of wealth. It is not the appearance of comfort, but the capacity to tide over a period of want and misfortune that is a more real test of prosperity. How do the people generally lay up for the rainy day? Mr. Smith will probably rejoin that it is the very thing he would see more largely practised. But with their present earnings, they could not save anything without almost denying themselves the necessities of life. What he calls luxuries, are not luxuries, but absolute necessities, as these times are. They are as cheap as the necessities of the older times, and brought within as easy reach. Indulgence in these things, far from being proscribed, should rather be encouraged. So far as want of thrift is shown in vicious indulgences, we share Mr. Smith's opinion, although we think they have their origin in the very environments of their life and employment. At any rate, the question is a complicated one. We have not sufficient data for accurate judgment. There is diversity even amongst officials. It is rare for an official to speak with the candour which is shown by Colonel Garbett, Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh. "He thinks that the mass of the people in the district are very poorly off and that the margin which separates them from actual want is dangerously narrow."

But the subject needs to be more accurately investigated. We have therefore been much gratified to find the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal recommending the collection of closely observed facts to bear on the subject. He says "The subject of the condition of the people is one to which special attention

should be paid during the current year, with a view not merely to the expression of opinions, of which the number on record is by no means deficient, but still more to the accumulation of relevant facts, as to the wages of labor in different places, the extent to which all members of the family of the working man find employment, the quality of the food consumed by the poorer classes and its cost, their other expenses, and their general physical state. The Lieutenant-Governor notices with satisfaction that Mr. Gricerson's attention has been drawn to the practice of employing laborers to work for their landlords at less than the market rate. Such custom can be maintained only by the occasional use of compulsion in some form; and whenever compulsion is resorted to, a vigilant Magistrate has the opportunity for beneficial interference." We quite agree, and think this would be far more useful employment of officials on tour, than scampering 'cross country with firearms to the consternation of the peasantry, or working Zemindary elephants to death in quest of a reputation for tiger-shooting.

### THE PEST OF THE POLICE.

THE Zemindars of this country are gradually taking to a useful reform in the management of their estates. They now give salaries to their officers sufficient to secure in them integrity, and generally a higher standard of character. This is a step in the right direction, the effects of which cannot fail to appear in more efficient administration of their properties, and in the increased happiness and contentment of their tenants. The British Government in India have long ago set them the example in this, which they but follow. From the time of Lord Cornwallis downwards to this day, there have been successive reforms towards raising the emoluments and position of the higher and subordinate Services. And always with the most salutary results. Low pay, and corruption used to go hand in hand, as well in the offices ordinarily filled by the natives, as in the higher ones held by Europeans. That state of things has now all but disappeared, and, as a rule, the Subordinate Executive and Judicial Services, and the Civil Service, have established a high character for probity and trustworthiness. There is one Department, however, of the Government, and a large and important one, in which corruption has prevailed without any real check, and almost in the knowledge of higher officials, and prevails to this day. We refer to the Police Department.

The venality of the Police is too generally known and admitted to require demonstration. Excepting probably the higher inspecting agency, the officers who more directly deal with the people are steeped to the lips in bribery. To obtain a police constablenesship, in some of the Eastern districts, notably Backergunge, a candidate would not hesitate to be out of pocket to the extent of a thousand rupees. A Sub-Inspector, or even a Head Constable on Rs. 25 commands the income of a Deputy Magistrate. The consequences of such a state of things on the criminal administration, must be something awful to contemplate. Indeed, this state of things could alone be possible amongst a remarkably peaceable, law-abiding, timid population. That facts too long patent to the people are not suspected by the state officials, can scarcely be believed. If it were so, all the more discredit to the discernment and shrewdness of those officials. But it cannot be so. The disproportion of pay to the power

and responsibility of the police, cannot reasonably have any other result. The Police is the basis of Government—the entire machinery turns upon it. Remembering this, there is little difficulty to imagine the amount of oppression, of extortion, and impunity of criminals, which must result from the blackguardism of the Police.

The reality of what has been here stated, would justify far stronger language than this. If it is the glory of British law that nine guilty men had rather escape than one innocent man should suffer, that glory is extra-judicially achieved by the myrmidons of the Police in their own peculiar way. Only the guilty should have command of the long purse and the Police will do the rest. They must submit to ever so much fleecing with a good grace. This is how the Police protects the people. Its corruption is too notorious, too well known, nay, so much so as to have come to be taken as a thing of course.

Let it never be imagined that we are harping on exploded or exceptional grievances. We are not thinking of the dark ages or of the far off interior. The evil is rampant at this day and in our very midst. The Police is a pest throughout the country, but it is particularly bad in the neighbourhood of the capital, while the worst type rages in the metropolis itself. It is here that it has developed into a system of lawlessness. The nefarious ways of this institution are here reduced to a system; its various successes in protecting crime are an open secret among the settled inhabitants. Its practices in the very courthouse and presence of the bench, are a disgrace to the administration. The neighbouring body of the Bengal Police are nothing half so audacious, indeed, are not at all so organised and otherwise advantaged, as the Metropolitan Force. Still they are bad enough. If the Magistrate and Commissioner were not Europeans and Brahmans among Europeans into the bargain, they would have easily appreciated them at their worth, and could have been a check. They would, for instance, have found out the existence of a sort of syndicate which is the terror of a suburban town. If these great officials had had dealings with the people, they might have heard rumours of a great outrage—a man beaten within an inch of his life and probably still in hospital—quietly buried.

But will there never be a remedy? Will this corruption be allowed to go on, and the mildest race on earth live in constant terror? Will the Police never be made a popular branch of the administration. The reform can only come in the same way as the reform of the Company's Writers, and the lower magisterial and judicial Services. Such a reform must involve increased cost, and the chronic financial exigencies of our Government hardly favor any chance of its listening to any proposals attended with increased expenditure. The Public Service Commission have lately examined into the subject, but, from the evidence which was recorded and which, for the most part, was tendered by officers of the Department concerned, much hope does not remain of anything adequate being done. A few of the deponents, however, spoke with commendable candour and gave broad hints as to the reeking immorality of the Police Service. The system of promotion, as well as of recruitment, was condemned, and the perfunctoriness and, indeed, utterly farcical character of the European Superintendence at the top, pointed out. The European Superintendents are, we believe, safe, from the prejudices of District officers

against the direct contact of native officers. But as they do deal directly with native engineers, clerks, assessors, and Deputy Collectors, it may be hoped that native Superintendents of the Police with more experience of the country and its criminal classes, and, what is more, with the capacity of exercising more efficient check over the native subordinates, will not disturb their sense of dignity. The reform must, however, be in the grades of Head Constables and Sub-Inspectors, whose emoluments are out of proportion to their powers, although the question of expenditure may be facilitated by a larger employment of natives in the higher offices, now all but exclusively held by Europeans.

### THE OLEMA IN SOLEMN CONCLAVE:

#### THE ERRING KNIGHT AND THE IMAUM TO THE RESCUE.

THE Dons held their adjourned meeting this afternoon and, as befitted Dons and Hidalgos, and other crustacea, walked backwards. It will be remembered how, at the last meeting of the Senate, Sir Alfred Croft, the Chairman ultimate of the day, carried, by his casting vote, his own motion for the introduction of Chemistry into the Entrance curriculum. It was a short-lived triumph. Our errant knight himself felt misgivings. The Senate may be without a soul to be damned as it is without a body to be kicked. But even fashionable Directors of Public Instruction have not apparently quite the advantage of corporations. Our Alfred the Great had compunctious visitings of conscience.

Tir'd Nature's sweet restorer, balmy Sleep!  
He, like the world, his ready visit pays  
Where fortune smiles; the wretched he forsakes;  
Swift on his downy pinion flies from woe,  
And lights on lids unsullied with a tear.

In vain did Morpheus he invoke; not a wink of sleep came to the good knight as, at dead of night, he lay on his lonely pillow. The colleagues who had fought him and his "fad" so valiantly at the Senate House, seemed in shapes, various and uncouth, to pick at the bed clothes and even to prick him. He himself relented. After all, thought he, they had been on the defensive. It was he that, on the back of his scientific hobby, had repeatedly charged into them, and at last, by help of an accidental advantage, succeeded in sending them to rout. Now Alfred, as becomes so great a knight, is great in peace as well as war. He is a learned knight too, and remembers his Milton.

.....Peace hath her victories  
No less renown'd than war:

He can be as ascetic as gay—footing it all the way to Rome or even Jerusalem, if need be. Learned as he is, he knows the ancient saying, To err is human—and the knight is very human, as he knows without the special help of classics. But he is a philosopher into the bargain, though without a settled faith; indeed, in these happy days of ours, faith is in the way of a philosophical reputation; 'the less religious, the more profound and positive,' such is the modern rule. Even with his philosophy, without the aid of theology, he understands the saving virtues of repentance. Error must be atoned for, for peace of self and mercy of mankind, if not for God's mercy. So he resolved on penitence. Putting on sackcloth and besmearing himself with ashes, like an Indian Fakir—metaphorically speaking—he hid himself to the Lord Chief Justice, who is the President of the *Olema*—under the Sultan of the Farther East—explained his situation, confessed his sin, and prayed for absolution. The great Imaum lent a patient ear and sympathised with the knight's distress. The enormity of the offence there was no denying, and so he prescribed the *prayaschit*, to wit—

#### NOTE BY THE HON'BLE THE VICE-CHANCELLOR.

At the last meeting of the Senate, on the 3rd inst. the report of the Sub-Committee appointed to inquire into the Entrance Examination was taken into consideration. It was proposed by Sir Alfred Croft, who afterwards took the chair on my vacating it, that the subject of Chemistry be introduced into the Entrance Course. This was finally carried by the casting vote of the Chairman. It has been represented to me by the mover that it is undesirable that a question of this importance should be decided by a casting vote; and he recommends that an opportunity should be given to the Senate of reviewing its

decision. In this view of the matter I concur. At the adjourned meeting of the Senate, to be held on the 10th inst., Sir Alfred Croft will accordingly bring forward a motion fixing a date for the introduction of Chemistry into the course; when it will be open to any member to move by way of amendment that the introduction of that subject be indefinitely postponed.

W. COMER PETHERAM,  
Vice-Chancellor.

SENATE HOUSE,  
The 5th December, 1887.

Accordingly, the adjourned meeting of the Senate undid to-day the work of its last sitting, Sir Alfred himself perpetrating a motion to postpone indefinitely action on his triumphant Resolution of last week. Thus the sensitive Director satisfies his trembling conscience, though at the expense of the poor innocents who had been led to support him on the previous occasion.

All today's proceedings were of a piece. The Senators were in a peculiarly melancholy negative mood. They not only backed out of their own Resolution but threw out every proposition offered.

THE following comes from Santipore:—

Srimati Bhaba Tarini Dabi (the aunt of Haridas Roy and mother-in-law of Satya Bala, a widow scarcely passed her teens,) who is an idiot, at any rate "ill-furnished in the upper story" and as such is a tool in the hands of her nephew, lately obtained a decree for Rs. 3,400 against her daughter-in-law. In execution, the whole property of Satya Bala, valued at a lac and a half, was put up to sale and sold for a song—at the incredibly and lamentably low price of Rs. 3,400, the only bidders being Babu Hari Das and the pleader of his aunt, it being seemingly managed, by hook or by crook, that no other person might get a scent of the sale. No notices of the sale appear to have been stuck up in conspicuous places, at any rate no mortal eyes ever saw them, nor was any proclamation issued by beat of drum as required by law. Under the circumstances, how the sale could have been possible unless, of course, the hands of certain gentlemen were well oiled and the connivance of certain others, including an agent of Satya Bala, was obtained—purchased, of course, would be too vulgar a word—not indeed by bribes, for so honorable a gentleman as Baboo Hari Das must be presumed to be incapable of giving bribes—but by friendly presents either before or immediately after the consummation so devoutly wished for, is a problem which is likely to be solved on an early date. In the meantime, Satya Bala is a street beggar. She has not the wherewithal to keep body and soul together. As for her being able to meet the cost of so expensive a suit, that is out of the question. Satya Bala was thinking of retiring from the world and spending the rest of her days in Benares or Brindaban "the world forgetting, by the world forgot." But a silver lining in the firmament has arrested her. In these days of self-worship, knight errants, if not plentiful as blackberries, are still to be met with, and Satya Bala has got a couple of friends, true as Ripon steel, who, though they know it for certain that any good turn that they may do to the unfortunate widow will at most be shuffled off by such uncurrent pay as thanks, are ready to spend their last penny to wipe the tears from the widow's eyes. Baboo Hari Das Roy was apparently under an impression that after he was once declared purchaser, it would be all smooth sailing. If so, he had counted without his host. Besides, even though the sale may have been perfectly legal, still Baboo Hari will scarcely be morally justified in taking the bread out of the mouth of his unfortunate relative. As for the widow's chances of recovering her property, the law is proverbially uncertain, and it is not given to a mortal to say whether Satya Bala will recover the estate. But if the sympathy of every right-thinking man in the District may give her any consolation, she may count upon it.

A DANIEL has come to judgment—before the Court of the Republic of Letters—is the latest *bulletin* for the literary world of the West. The Ceylon Appu has turned author—in England, though hardly in English. "*Curries. How to make in England. In its original style.*" By Daniel Santiago, son of Francis Daniel, Butler and Fiddler of Colombo, Ceylon—is the title of a little booklet published from the Ceylon Court, Royal Jubilee Exhibition, Liverpool 1887. Daniel II., though publishing in the year of Her Majesty's Jubilee, does not write in the Queen's tongue, but rather in the "Pigeon" variety so well known in the Far East. There are so many varieties spoken and written nearer home, variously designated or designable as "Prabhu," "Babooese," "Ramasawmese," Anglo-Portuguese, Anglo-French, Anglo-Indianese,

"What can-do," and so forth, that we reproduce the following from the preface for facility of comparison:—

"With regards I hope the lovers of curry and rice will be satisfied with these accompanying recipes which I should say can be made in England with curry stuffs and provisions procurable here. The fact is I, myself, have tried several of these curries in England during my short visit in England, and found to be a good result, in fact, not in its original state, but only second to it in my opinion. If carefully prepared will find it as a economical dish for breakfast, lunch, or dinner. Only little time and attention is required. I wish the reader will have the pleasure of reading this book right through first.

That is a great deal better than the eloquence of some of our aspiring spirits. It has the prime recommendation of intelligibility. The *patois* invented by the famous biographer of poor Judge Onocool Chunder Mookerjee, for instance, belonged more to the "unknown tongues" than of Irving.

#### MOORSHEDEBAD.

December 6, 1887.

The weather is delightfully cool and pleasant, and the public health is now improving, as fresh cases of fever are not reported. The Mohurram demonstrations are all over. Since I wrote last, I find that there are truly certain orthodox *Shia* Moslems, living in the city, who took exception, at the extraordinary proceedings of their chief, who, for reasons best known to himself, interfered with the time-honored usage of saying the "Taburra," on the occasion of the last day of their mourning ceremony the "chehlum." After a continued mourning of little over two months of the Mohurram, the *Shias* took to rejoicing in the shape of recreation, by holding feasts and *nautches* for three consecutive days, commencing from Friday the 9th, to Sunday the 12th of the current lunar month, *Robiul-awal*. There were, on the above 3 nights, illuminations and decorations, in several houses of the *Shias*, on a moderate scale. And on enquiry, I was informed that the *Shias* observe this festival, called "Ede-i-Shuja," with much zeal and enthusiasm, in memory of the eventful date, on which the 2nd Caliph, Omar, was stabbed to death by one Shuja-uddin-aboo-Lolo. The audience in the *Mahfils* were, at intervals, served with refreshments, tea, *pan* and scents, &c. There were recitations of mimic and comic Urdu Poems relating to this event. The Nawab of Moorshehabad's Medresa, which is a special institution for the education of the younger members of his family, was closed for two days, and the Nawab's high school enjoyed a half-holiday only, on the occasion, and the Nizamut offices were closed also, for one day. Mutual embraces and greetings were exchanged amongst *Shia* Moslems, who were dressed in their best attire, on this joyous occasion. I was further informed, by several gentlemen of the same persuasion that weddings, if solemnized in any of those 3 days, would be considered the happiest matrimonial alliance throughout; and that in the palmy days of the Nizamut, this Ede-i-Shuja used to be celebrated, at the Palace and the *Darbariat*, on a very grand scale, inasmuch as the Agent to the Governor-General at Moorshehabad, the civil officials and the senior members of the Nizamut family would be invited by his late Highness, Nawab Syud Monsoor Ali Khan Bahadur, Faridoon Jah, the last Nawab Nazim of Bengal, to grace the occasion with their presence; when the celebrated mimic and comic Poet, Gawhar-Ali-Mooshin of Lucknow, was engaged, at considerable cost, to recite the details of the above event, in the choicest Urdu Poems extempore, to excite the mirth and jollity of the audience. I am also told that ladies of rank in the harems and in some respectable houses, celebrate this ceremony, with much acclamation among their own sex, in the *Zenana*. I now find, from a careful perusal of the mimic and comic Poems (*Hirsiyas*) that the fame of Gawhar Ali Mooshin, as a Poet well versed in the ludicrous, is, in no way, exaggerated; he fully deserves the rank allotted to him as the best Poet of comic scenes. In fact, I was so much charmed with the elegance of puns and pleasantries of these *Hirsiyas*, that I requested several gentlemen to supply me with a copy or two of them.

#### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 30th November 1887.—Mr. D. B. Allen is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Jessore, on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of that District.

The 1st December 1887.—Moulvie Ameeruddin Ahmed, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dinapore, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date of which he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Kedar Nath Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sathkira, Khoolna, is allowed leave for two months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Baboo Surendro Nath Ghose, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Khoolna, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Sathkira sub-division of that district, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

In modification of the order of the 23rd November 1887, Mr. Mahomed Israil, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kooshtea, Nuddea, is transferred to the 24-Pergunnahs district, and is appointed to have charge of the Baraset sub-division of that district, *vice* Baboo Rakhal Das Haldar, deceased.

The 2nd December 1887.—Baboo Mohesh Chunder Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bogra, is transferred to Jessore, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Baboo Toolsi Das Mookerjee, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is transferred to Bogra.

The 5th December 1887.—Mr. W. H. Page is allowed leave for two months and twenty-nine days under the note to rule 2, section 73 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 18th instant, or such subsequent date as he may be relieved of his present appointment as Officiating District and Sessions Judge of Mozufferpore.

Baboo Bogola Prosonno Mozoomdar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is allowed leave for one month, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 21st instant.

Mr. E. F. Ainslie, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Palamow, Lohardugga, is vested with special appellate powers under section 87 of Act VII (B.C.) of 1876.

Mr. J. G. Ritchie is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, with effect from the date on which he was relieved of his appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector, 24-Pergunnahs.

Mr. Ritchie is allowed leave for fourteen days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date of his being relieved of his appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of the 24-Pergunnahs.

Moulvie Syed Mahomed, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Patna, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 10th instant, or such subsequent date, as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. H. Thompson, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Purneah.

The 6th December 1887.—Baboo Nityananda Bhar, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Burdwan, is transferred to Rajshahye, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Baboo Narendro Nath Pal Chowdry, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye, on leave, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Burdwan.

Baboo Poorna Chunder Roy, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Orissa Division, and Assistant to the Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals, Cuttack, is allowed leave for one month and eighteen days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code.

Baboo Atal Behary Moitra, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is appointed to act as Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Orissa Division, and also as Assistant to the Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals, Cuttack, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Poorna Chunder Roy, or until further orders.

Baboo Atal Behary Moitra is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector in the Tributary Mehals, Cuttack.

Kumar Girindra Narain Deb, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is transferred to Nuddea, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Baboo Bunkim Chunder Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is allowed leave for six months, under section 134 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. J. H. Bernard is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to the Sudder station of the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Rai Rajendra Nath Mitra Bahadur, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Parbutty Churn Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Darjeeling, is transferred to the 24 Pergunnahs, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Rai Rajendra Nath Mitra Bahadur, or until further orders.

Mr. N. Ward-Jones, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nelphamari, Rungpore, is allowed leave for six months, under section 128 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Baboo Umesh Chunder Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Nelphamari sub-division of that district, during the absence, on leave of Mr. N. Ward-Jones, or until further orders, with effect from the date on which he joined that appointment.

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

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No. 302

## THE SONG OF THE MOSQUITO.

A CALCUTTA FRAGMENT.

BY COLONEL YOUNG.

'Oh the pleasures of the plains'  
In Bengal, and in the Rains,  
When the climate, damp and warm,  
Makes our tiny tribes to swarm,  
From each puddle, from each tank,  
Fringed with vegetation rank;  
Whence, 'mid duck-weed hatched, and slime,  
In the fulness of good time,  
Shuffled off our maggot coil,  
Start we into life's turmoil.  
Clamorous, winged, and armed for fight,  
Speeding quick our eager flight,  
Ravenous, in quest of prey.  
With the sun's declining ray,  
Let us to the Fort repair,  
In the Royal Barracks—there,  
Sure to find the ruddy Griffin,  
Full of beer and full of tiffin,  
In the sultry afternoon,  
Legs on table lolling; soon  
Hies he to his tempting cot,  
Stretching him supine; forgot  
Cares and sorrows, scanty pay,  
Duns that haunt the livelong day,  
All forgot. Anon the book,  
That in listless hand he took,  
Drops upon his breast, as close his  
Languid eyes: he yawns, he dozes;  
Sinks at length in sleep unquiet!  
Wild fantastic visions riot,  
Flitting o'er his throbbing brain,  
Till all is chaos come again!

Dreams he of *Rale Hodgson's* ghost!

Shouts again the ideal toast!  
Lo! the bottle's periwinkles,  
Change to gown of her lie doats  
Upon:—his youthful village love,  
Left to pine while he would rove  
Foreign lands and nymphs among.  
Soft! he lists her well known song,  
Wood-notes wild, so long, so clear,  
Echo in his straining ear!  
—Silly dreamer! wild-wood notes,  
Here be none!—save from our throats,  
Shrill ear-piercing trumps that sound,  
While we flit our victim round!

Unsuspecting yet he lies,  
Dreaming of fair lady's eyes,  
Visionary phantasms bright,  
Mocking still his mental sight.  
Kisses,—poutings,—true-love token—  
Ancient crooked-sixpence broken—  
All in gay confusion dance.  
Then, the fond, the piercing glance,

Her bright eyes' unerring dart,  
Winged into his very heart.  
Oh the torture! oh the smart!  
—Silly dreamer! dart or wing,  
Here be none!—save tiny sting,  
Which with vigorous aim we ply,  
As the lubbard wight doth lie,  
Flushed with heat, and sleep, and ale,  
While our hovering troops assail,  
Juicy English cheek and lip;  
Thus with oft repeated dip,  
In we plunge the sharp proboscis,  
Hunger is the best of sauces,  
And we lack no cookery,  
Griffin-blood, to relish thee!

Thus we suck, and gaze, and swill,  
Till our reddening bodies fill;  
Wing we then our lazy flight,  
Snug to roost on giddy height,  
Shelf, or book-case, or almirah's  
Top. No rest for *him*! our virus  
Quick ferments! each festering sore  
Seems a voice, cries 'Sleep no more!  
Gnats have murdered sleep (that knits up  
Travelled sleeve of care!)—He sits up  
Startled, scarce awake, head bursting,  
—Itching, scratching, smarting, thirsting,  
Curses deep, and loud, and long,  
Muttering, while our buzzing throng,  
Yet unsated, chaunt their song,  
'Oh the pleasures of the plains,  
In Bengal, and the Rains!!!'

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE following will be observed as public holidays during the year 1888, besides Sundays, the 2nd January, *i. e.*, the Monday next after New Year's Day, Good Friday and Christmas Day, which are public holidays under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

18th and 19th January (Wednesday & Thursday)...	Sripanchami.
27th February (Monday) ...	Dolejati.
31st March (Saturday) ...	Easter Saturday.
11th April (Wednesday) ...	Chait Sankranti.
24th May (Thursday) ...	Empress's Birthday.
19th June (Tuesday) ...	Dasahara.
29th August (Wednesday) ...	Janmashami.
5th October (Friday) ...	Mahalaya.
9th (Tuesday) to 13th (Saturday) October and 15th (Monday) to 20th (Saturday) October ...	Durga and Lukhy Pujas.
3rd November (Saturday) ...	Kali Puja.
12th and 13th November (Monday & Tuesday) ...	Jagadhatri Puja.
24th (Monday), 26th (Wednesday), and 27th (Thursday) December...	The day Preceding and the two days following Christmas day.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be



LADY PETHERAM arrived from Home by the last week's P. and O. Co.'s incoming steamer.

Lady Petheram returned to Europe by the next outgoing mail leaving in the *Khedive* on the 10th instant.

Sir Comer Petheram was unable to receive his worthy consort or to see her off. Servant of the public, and dominated by an irrepressible sense of duty, our good knight found himself marching at an incredible rate by mail train to Sarun on judicial inspection, as the lady doubled Cape Comorin and steamed right up the Bay to the Hoogly. Still his Secretary Mr. Joyce was sent down to do the honors of the reception and attend to her comforts.

WE read in a Madras paper that the Original Side of the High Court has had no work for the Judges for full one week. Does that justify the order for the removal of the High Court from the Black Town to the Fishing village near the Presidency College. They propose to requisition the Sheriff to call a public meeting to protest against the removal.

A JEWESS, Miss Mary Samuel, of Poona, has passed the B. A. examination.

THE Calcutta Session of the Viceregal Legislative Council opens on the 6th January next.

MR. FERGUSSON being dead, Mr. A. B. Miller, the Official Assignee also acts the Official Trustee.

THE Home remittances from 1st April to 10th December 1887 amounted to £9,813,900.

THE tenants of Country Down, Lord Dufferin's Zemindary, have applied to his Lordship for reduction of rent 40 per cent. and time for payment of rent.

THE Cawnpore-Kalpi section of the Indian Midland Railway now worked by the East Indian, will, from 1st January next, be worked by the Midland, when the line will be open for general traffic.

THE Maharana of Oodeypore was, on the 3rd instant, invested, by the Political Agent, with the badge of the Grand Commander of the Star of India.

THE Uncovenanted of Simla have grown sick of the honorary membership of the local United Service Club. They have proposed a Club of their own, in the Simla Bank Corporation premises, and appointed Trustees.

MR. H. S. THOMAS, of the Thomas Revolt in India, the First Member of the Madras Board of Revenue, is a naturalist, and has discovered the uses of the Mosquito. He was to have read a paper on the subject last week.

THE Municipal Commissioners still stick to their Chairman as their representative in the Port Commission. They are evidently not yet agreed to elect one of themselves. Sir Henry Harrison is Gazetted a Port Commissioner in place of Mr. H. J. S. Cotton.

AN old offender, an ex-policeman, named Kashiram, while being tried by the Assistant Commissioner, Mr. Kennedy, Lahore, for theft in the house of the Small Cause Court Judge, threw a stone with violence against the Magistrate and hurt him severely while ordering a sentence of two years' imprisonment.

THEY started at Madras a subscription Fund to repay Mr. Rhodes Morgan his costs in the adultery case against Mr. Ross. The subscriptions have since been returned, since it was hinted that it was against the spirit of the rules of the service to receive contribution from the public.

THERE is to be a municipality in the Indore city. Five members, two at least being non-official, to be elected or nominated, will form the

Board to manage conservancy, education and local improvements. They will have power to levy rates and taxes subject to sanction. Members may be removed at the pleasure of the Durbar, the President and Vice-President being Durbar nominees.

SIXTEEN students in English, fourteen in Mental and Moral Science, thirteen in Physical Science, six in Mathematics, three in Sanskrit, two in Persian and two in History, have passed the M. A. Examination. The Dacca College stands first in English, the Presidency College in Mental and Moral Science, Physical Science and Mathematics, the Sanskrit College returns all the passed students, a teacher stands first in Persian and the City College in History.

LORD RIPON defines a "gentleman" thus:—

"The word 'Gentleman' means a man of courteous, gentle and refined manners.....but it means something more—something higher and better than that. It means a man, whose courtesy and gentleness and refinement are not a mere matter of outward grace only but rather a matter of the heart also a man who is honourable and truthful and manly and just; who lives not for his own selfish enjoyment, but to do his duty faithfully to God and those who are dependent upon him, whose aims are high, and who scorns an ignoble life."

GUARD G. D. Brookes in charge of the 5 O'clock up mail of the 4th instant, running between Gujrat and Lala Musa, is in custody for a brutal assault on a female passenger Mrs. King, who was travelling to Murree, in the second class reserved carriage for ladies. Mrs. King was taken out at Jhelum in a state of insensibility and weltering in blood, her face fearfully mutilated and her head gashed in three places. The Magistrate of Jhelum has sent up Brookes. Brookes is a marked man. He has previous convictions.

THERE have been heavy defalcations in the Karachi branch of the Bank of Bombay. The books are all right but there is a shortage of Rs. 75,000, in the reserve balance. The manager Grant, a servant of 20 years' standing, will be proceeded against, no other servant being implicated. Grant has fallen ill seriously. And little wonder. The situation is enough to give one fits. But then no convulsions, how violent so ever, unless, of course, it be deadly tetanus, will, we are afraid, avail. Between gaol and the goal of life—the grave, there is no other branch of the alternative. Quietus may yet be found in a full dose of Prussic acid.

LORD DUFFERIN has evidently a faculty for languages. At Peshawar he addressed the gathering of the frontier tribe Chiefs in Persian, which, however, was wasted, and the Kazi Sahib had to translate the speech into Pashto for the comprehension of the rude audience. Whatever may be thought of the feat of delivering a Persian speech which may have been written by others, His Lordship must have acquired sufficient proficiency in the Oriental language to pass the ordeal of examining the boys at the Mushahi Mosque at Lahore "in their studies in Persian, Urdu, &c., and hearing them read the 11th part of the Koran" and finally "expressing satisfaction at their progress in education."

THE Bengal Chamber of Commerce have no objection to the abolition of the Calcutta Mint, provided "the Government will undertake to give the Calcutta public the option of receiving currency in Calcutta exchange for bullion coined in the Bombay Mint. The Chamber would suggest that this option should be given without extra charge, but would, if necessary, be content with an undertaking that no higher charge should be made for the transfer than one-sixteenth per centum. The Committee on behalf of the Chamber assume that Government would undertake to receive bullion in Calcutta for coinage in Bombay, and return the coined equivalent in Calcutta without charge for carriage, and with no further delay than is incurred under the present mint rules."

LORD DUFFERIN, if he has not yet won over the Burma "Dacoits," has conquered Vamberry. The Viceroy's Afghan and North Western Frontier policies have satisfied the Professor. Talking of the surrender of Ayub Khan, in the *Preston Lloyd*, the Professor writes—"Lord Dufferin is without doubt by far the most sagacious, the ablest, and most courageous diplomatist of whom the England of to-day can boast. While maintaining the best relations

with Abdur Rahman, he at the same time approaches his enemies and rivals, with a view of securing British influence in Afghanistan whatever might happen. His endeavours have now been crowned with brilliant success." He proceeds—"England still disposes of a sufficient power to check Muscovite designs in Inner Asia and to break the chain of causality which the St. Petersburg Cabinet has striven hard to establish between Soff and Herat. Russia to-day isolated in Europe will not long hesitate to inflate herself in Asia. The Northern Bear vexed at the Central European alliance, will henceforth growl on the left bank of the Oxus; but England will no doubt profit by the advantages which she has meanwhile attained."

MATTERS are not so very different in England from what they are in this country. We read in the English papers :—

"The case of the man who answered for an absent jurymen the other day is not, it appears, exceptional. One of the Assize Judges had before him on Monday a father and son who had deceived the Court in a similar way. The son was summoned as a jurymen at Manchester; the father obliged the younger man by taking his place on the panel. He had not even the excuse—though it obviously would have been an insufficient excuse—of answering to the same name. The son who was summoned was Charles Lever; the father, James Lever, answered to his son's name. The son and father both were called up to receive the Judge's reprimand, and the former ingenuously pleaded that they had done the same thing at a coroner's court, and thought they might act for one another at the assizes as well. They were gravely admonished, for the warning of the public, that such mutual arrangements constitute at the least a serious contempt of court. They were fortunate in escaping punishment on the promise to offend no more."

If we have not such mutually accommodating jurymen here, we have something like it in the municipalities. At least in Barrackpore a Municipal Commissioner has been acting whose father is qualified, but not himself.

By the grace of Government, Dr. Gooroo Das Banerjee, who assists the Judges of Her Majesty's High Court in Bengal, in the interpretation of laws, has been called upon to assist in the making of the laws for the Lower Provinces.

Mr. C. H. MOORE, of the firm of Gillanders Arbuthnot & Co., is also appointed a member of the Bengal Council.

The Advocate-General, the Hon'ble G. C. Paul, is given another term in the same council.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

A LONDON weekly thus summarises the French political news of the week ending the 12th November :—

"When the report of the Bureaux in favour of the Wilson inquiry was presented to the Chamber on Saturday, a Deputy hitherto little known, M. Colfavru, proposed that 'a Committee of twenty-two Deputies should proceed to a general inquiry into all facts touching the Administration which should appear to it to merit censure or repression.' That is a 'loving commission' indeed; but the Committee was finally voted by 445 to 84, and was, moreover, by 315 to 184 votes, invested with all powers necessary for procuring evidence. As the inquiry will thus range back through the whole period of M. Grévy's tenure, M. Wilson's friends hoped that it would overtask the Committee; but on Wednesday a new incident occurred. It was discovered during the trial of General Caffarel, that two letters addressed by M. Wilson to Madame Limousin had been abstracted while in the custody of the police, and forgeries substituted for them. There is no doubt of the fact, which rests on irresistible evidence, and the hostile newspapers accuse M. Wilson of instigating the forgeries. So excited was the Chamber, that M. Rouvier was compelled to order an investigation by the Public Prosecutor, and it is asserted that a violent scene occurred in the Cabinet, the Ministry imploring M. Grévy to give up his son-in-law, which the President bluntly refused to do. However that may be, the agitation in Paris is so extreme that any absurdities are believed, such as that M. Wilson sent burglars to abstract papers from the house of M. de Portalis, a leading opponent, and even attempted to assassinate him."

The situation looks ominous. Probably many of the people think that this Republic has lasted long enough.

The telegraph since (13th) announced the acquittal of M. Grévy's son-in-law, the Judges forming the Chamber of Accusation deciding the charges against M. Wilson untenable.

M. GREVY could hold out no longer, but had to give way to the demand of the Chamber of Deputies. The French President sent down his message which was read to the House on the 1st inst. The re-

signed President disclaims all responsibility for whatever may arise in the future.

On the 2nd, the Congress met at Versailles, for the election of the President, and returned M. Sadi-Carnot, by 616 votes. The first ballot gave M. Ferry 212 votes and M. de Freycinet 76. To avoid splitting the Republican vote, M. de Freycinet retired in favour of the elected. The election, though unexpected and peaceful, has given satisfaction all round.

The formation of the new Cabinet has not, however, been easy. The duty was first entrusted to M. Goblet, but the Opportunists declining to co-operate with the Radicals, he had to abandon his efforts. The next chance fell to M. Fallières, the Minister of Public Instruction under M. Ferry. He too failed. M. Tirard, Minister of Finance under M. Ferry, next tried his hand. He also could not unite the various parties. He tried again and has succeeded with the following cast :—

President of Council and Minister of Finance	...	M. Tirard.
Foreign Affairs	...	M. Flourens.
Interior	...	M. Sarrien.
Justice	...	M. Fallières.
War	...	General Logerat.
Marine and Colonies	...	M. de Mahy.
Public Instruction	...	M. Faye.
Public Works	...	M. Roubet.
Commerce	...	M. Dautresme.
Agriculture	...	M. Viette."

M. JULES FERRY is still being pursued by the Fates. Before he could recover from his disappointment at the Presidential Elections, he has had another trial. On the 9th inst in the lobby of the Chamber of Deputies, he was fired at. The bullets lockily were arrested by his clothes and he received only slight injuries. The would-be assassin was secured immediately, and he confessed to belonging to a band who had vowed the death of intriguers.

LAST week, the Crown Prince of Germany was reported to be enjoying robust general health, and that the attending physicians had begun to doubt whether His Imperial Highness was really suffering from cancer. This week's telegram, however, is alarming. On the evening of the 13th, the doctors discovered a new and larger growth which was rapidly increasing. We hope the Doctors have again erred.

It is interesting to record the march of social progress in the heart of Central India. It is in good hands when the natural leaders of society are pioneers. When the princely House of Rutlam takes the lead in the improvement of women, we may well hope that it will be real and continuous and, above all, that it will not be overdone. It is to Rutlam, if we remember aright, that we owe the impulse which finally resulted in the grand scheme for the medical relief of women-kind in India with which the blessed name of Lady Dufferin will for ever be associated. And now we learn that Her Highness the Princess of Rutlam is about to employ the agency of the press for the enlightenment of her sisterhood. She is herself an educated lady, and naturally mourns the state of darkness to which her sex in general in Upper and Central India is consigned. Efforts are no doubt, here and there, making for the education of girls by the establishment of elementary schools; but they go but a small way towards the end in view. The state of female education may be inferred from the fact that up to this there is not a single periodical publication by, or even for, women. That want is about to be supplied. The good Princess will shortly issue a Hindi journal under the name of *Sugrāhini*, under the editorship of her own tutress Srimati Hemanta Kumari Debi. Such a Ladies' Paper must give a great impetus to female education and general enlightenment in the heart of India. We give our fair Brahmani a cordial invitation to the ranks of journalism.

A GOOD deal of dissatisfaction seems to be felt in Burma at the Hon'ble Mr. Scoble's abandoning his intended trip to that country. If our fellow-subjects of Burma knew the cause of the change of mind, they would cease to find fault. We are not in Mr. Scoble's secret, but it is known here that Mrs. Scoble is in a very poor state of health and, unless the change to Calcutta sets her up, shall have to be sent to England in March. Simla agreed with Mr. Scoble himself,

but Mrs. Scoble was not well for a single day almost. Under the circumstance, what humane or reasonable man will complain? Mr. Scoble is too sober and earnest a man to trifle with his duties or be guilty of the imputed vacillation of purpose. He must be amused at the suspicion of giving up his proposed tour to the allurements of the tennis court or the dinner table. The label has been affixed to the wrong article.

THE South Barrackpore correspondent of the *Statesman* is

"Sorry to find that all the old Commissioners, with the exception of one gentleman, have been returned. Unless the municipal law with regard to the qualification of voters is amended, and the canvassing for votes is considered as an offence against municipal law, all hopes of returning good and true men must be abandoned. Here the Commissioners are elected by feasting the voters, supplicating their help, and so forth, which men of independent spirit are loth to practise."

Every form of government is liable to abuse, and popular forms of government are no exception. We do not consider canvassing for votes objectionable *per se*, for a canvass affords the best possible opportunity of an exchange of views between the electors and the candidates. If canvassing is to be put down on account of the opportunities it affords for corrupt influences, all parochial discussion of the merits of candidates, whether in formal meeting or in private interviews between citizens, would have to be interdicted. This is manifestly an impossibility. If, however, you allow such discussion, it may be made use of for purposes of active canvass.

The qualifications for voters, however, affords reasonable grounds of complaint. Local Self-Government was started here with a *tabula rasa*, and consequently there was greater scope in framing a proper electorate than in countries where strong vested rights of representation have existed from ancient times. A mere property qualification, at least in the beginning, ought not to have been recognised. The exercise of franchise rights ought to be confined to persons capable of forming an intelligent opinion on public men and measures. If the franchise is confined for the present to persons capable of reading and writing their own vernacular or any other language current in India, a vast inert mass would be eliminated from the register. Malpractices and misrepresentations which succeed only with the illiterate, will die a natural death; the practical working of the elective system immensely simplified; and the chance, of improper persons succeeding in the elections greatly diminished. Whilst such a rule would not inflict any hardship upon any person, a great impetus would be given to mass education.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Statesman* stated, some days ago, that an oil-maker at Baranagar had so brutally assaulted one of his workmen that his victim succumbed to the injuries, and that the case was now before the Sessions Judge of 24-Pergunnahs. We have since made enquiries and find that there is no such case under trial. The fact of the assault is, however, generally reported, though it is not said to have fatally terminated. Will Mr. Forbes, Magistrate of the District, enquire into the circumstances which have such a suspicious appearance about them, or the Sub-Divisional officer? The police at Baranagar continues to be in bad repute, and has lost the entire confidence of honest people. Robberies in broad day are committed with impunity, and now, if the *Statesman's* correspondent and the general report be not wholly false, here is an almost murderous assault without so much as any magisterial proceedings about it. If such things can happen under the very shadow of Calcutta, it must be a radically rotten system of police indeed, and the evil apparently past cure.

WHILE the higher divinities of the administration are immortalised in stone, brass or canvas, the smaller fry must be content with less pretending images being put up for them. The idol is however necessary for the incense-burners in each case; the difference is only in the material employed for reproduction of the image divine. In either case, the impulse proceeds from the head-worshipper and a number of votive offerings is secured, some of them from the pockets of men who are afraid of the consequences of a refusal. Thus a *Loco. Clerk*, serving in the office of the Locomotive Superintendent of a certain State Railway, complains in the papers of the petty tyranny of the "head-baboo" in the following terms:—

"Only lately this Baboo opened a subscription-list among his office clerks to get up a photo of the Superintendent who is shortly proceed-

ing home on furlough. We cannot afford to pay for such things, but we must for fear of punishment, stoppage of increments, reduction of pay."

As the worship is paying to the priest, there is no chance of the cult dying out.

A MADRAS Magistrate is reported to have fined 8 men, 8 annas each, for "skinning and cutting up the carcass of a horse that had died, with a view to using it for human consumption." *Apropos* to the same subject we may add what the Mandalay Correspondent of the *Maulmain Times* writes. A pony died in his compound and his "boy" so-called—the fellow may be old enough to be a grand-father—took it to the market and sold it, hide, flesh and all, the writer himself helping his servant to swell the food supply of the town by paying for a cart to carry the carcass away and unwittingly arming him with a written authority to dispose of it. Thereupon, our contemporary's correspondent resolves to do what is popularly called in Bengal eating off the floor to spite the thieves. But pursuit of purity in diet is characteristically superficial. He has no profound repugnance—no nervous shrinking. There is no dread at the thought of eating carrion, and of course no precautions taken to prevent the possibility of being made to eat it. "I shall rear my family on tinned meat," says he, "and eschew curries till that animal," namely his dead pony, "has passed away." Just so! Only till the pony has been eaten up by the neighbours! There is no great objection to either horse or carrion, but all decent men should avoid, if easily avoidable, living on the dead pony of one's own "compound" or horse as one should avoid eating one's grand-mother, dead or alive.—

"It is worse than an adventure that befell me in earlier days, when my coolies deserted *en masse* to eat a defunct elephant: they gorged themselves stiff, and for days were helpless with indigestion, while the work of the Empire, and the temper of my superior officer, went—over the garden wall. Verily we eat what we wot not of; but I draw the line at *tubercule de pony*."

*Shabash!*

THE *Maulmain Advertiser* rejoices in a special "Special." In our contemporary's "our own Correspondent" of Rangoon, we realise the nearest approach to the ideal Correspondent of the Future. He is a scientific man and his survey of the forces at work is wide and comprehensive, embracing both the physical and moral sides of Nature. He begins his communication with the changes in the earth's crust and those going in the vast laboratory within the bowels of our planet. Next he proceeds to take stock of the heavens above and note the occurrences in the pendant worlds. Finally, he descends to notice poor man and his petty affairs. Of course, he could not fail to be instructive. To give an example. His last letter dated the 28th Nov. opens with the earthquake felt at Rangoon on the 20th idem. Speaking of the movements, he writes:—

"They were sufficiently continuous and prolonged for more than a casual notice and also something more than ordinary. As remarked by some I have spoken to, it felt as if the ground beneath was rising and falling in a gentle way. There were no shocks at all but gentle tremours, and the tea in the cups (it was about tea-time) was seen to undulate every time the tremour was felt. The whole thing lasted for about two or three minutes—was distinctly felt but appeared localized. It now appears there were shocks felt elsewhere, and at Bassein it was sufficiently strong to create alarm."

That is simple and clear, and what is no mean recommendation, without the help of scientific jargon. It is not often that these phenomena are so modestly and accurately described. He adds:—

"An earthquake map of the world, published in that excellent work of Dr. Robert Browne, entitled 'Our Earth, and its Story,' now being issued by Messrs. Cassell & Co., in monthly parts, shows quite distinctly that this part of the world inhabited by us does lie within influence of seismic action and that too of the greatest intensity. The zone of greatest intensity seems to run along the whole course of the Himalayas, curve down to Pegu and stop somewhere in the vicinity of the Tenasserim division. Then occurs a gap, and it is not a little remarkable that Cochin-China should be marked as comparatively free from such natural action, or rather activity."

Turns he now upwards to the skies. And this is the news of the Heavens from his city that he communicates:—

"The stellar phenomena I allude to, with which Rangoonites have been busying themselves are two. One is the curious appearance of the well known curious star *Algol* in *Caput Medusa*. On the night in question, if I am not greatly mistaken on the very night of the earthquake, this star was noticed to as it were flare up exceedingly—red, green, yellow changing its colors rapidly—and from appearing like a star of the first magnitude to keep dwindling down till about 10 or 10-30 p. m. it turned sickly yellow and insignificant. *Algol* now is well

known as a changeable star its variations from maximum to minimum being more rapid almost than any other of the same kind, but I must say if all my informant says be correctly described Medusa's head must have shown stranger sights that night than the reputed 'Gorgonian terror' of olden days. The other appearance alluded to is the so-called 'Star of Bethlehem.' Some wise-acres here have come to find out that the star, which goes under that appellation, and which is said to have presided at the birth of our Lord, is to appear this year and seeing an exceedingly brilliant star in the eastern sky at about 4 or 5 in the morning have come to the conclusion that is the 'Star of Bethlehem.' No doubt there is a really very brilliant star in this part of the heavens at the time stated but it is one of our old well known planets—*Venus*, *Jupiter* just now is too close to the sun or I should have taken it for *Jupiter* at first sight. *Saturn* is visible all night long in *Cancer*, and *Mars* as well as *Venus* are morning stars now. *Venus* looks so grand because she is in her quadrature, and at such times she always does look very big especially if she be in that part of her orbit nearest the earth. The old 'Star of Bethlehem' some say was noticed in the chair of *Cassiopeia* and it is there the stranger should be looked for in future."

Having done justice to the myriad worlds above us, the writer takes up sublunary affairs. Altogether, he makes an interesting and useful letter out of the slenderest materials. It would be worth the while of other writers to try the method of the *M. A.*'s Rangoon Correspondent, if they could. Specials must be specially educated to be able to watch the motions of the earth and follow the vagaries of the planets and stars.

A PHOOKA case has once again turned up in the Police Court—in the Southern Division Magistracy. Mr. Gupta, as Northern Division Magistrate, had found that the blowing process was a torture to the animal, and some cases were accordingly decided under the law for the prevention of cruelty to animals. Sir Rivers Thompson, the retired Lieutenant-Governor, was evidently of the same view and decided not to amend the law for punishment of the blowers, leaving the law to its own operation on that behalf. Mr. Reily is not prepared to accept the ruling of Mr. Gupta and has called for evidence. The Hon'ble Kalinath Mitter, who had denounced the major portion of his Hindoo brethren on the municipal board as *gokhaduks*, in contradiction to his own Hindu purity, with the easy conscience of a lawyer, advocates the cause of the blowing milkman in the Police Court. It is all a question of payment with this amiable profession. He may sing to a different tune if the matter come up in the Legislative Council.

WE hear that the Town Council has not approved of the Chairman's proposal to proceed at once with the election of a Secretary *vice* Mr. Turnbull. It was resolved to advertise the appointment in the papers for two weeks, the salary being fixed at Rs. 600 to Rs. 800. There was also a proposition for a portrait of the retiring Secretary, but it was not carried.

THE Chairman of the Suburban Municipality has declared the names of the commissioners in the three uncontested Wards. In Ward No. III, all the existing Commissioners retain office. In Ward No. IV, Shuk Baichu steps into the place of the Hindu ex-Engineer of the Municipality, and is the first Mahomedan elected to that Board. In Ward No. V, one Hindu member is voluntarily replaced by another. With these two exceptions, all the old Commissioners of Ward No. IV and V are re-elected. This does not indicate any want of interest on the part of the electors, for the work of revising the registers, applying for voting papers, in fact all the preliminary work has been as zealously undertaken in these Wards as anywhere else. Candidates in excess of the required number, either actually came forward or intended to come forward in these places, but at the last moment they gave up what they deemed a hopeless contest. The elections in the remaining Wards will be held next week, and the contest promises to be a close one. For ten vacancies, there are fourteen candidates, including seven elected Commissioners, and one nominated Commissioner, Mr. Braunfield, who if elected will be the first Christian member so honored.

KUMAR SAMARENDRA CHUNDER DEB BURMON, Bara Thkhor of Independent Tipperah, is on his way to Calcutta on a visit. He reaches town by the East Bengal Railway to-morrow evening.

Kumar Samarendra Chunder is an intelligent and amiable young man who had been here more than once before.

THERE is a rumour at Matia Brooj of grand preparations for the reception by Nawab Khas Mahal of their Excellencies the Viceroy and

Countess Dufferin. Knowing the relations between the Begum and her royal Consort for a long series of years before his death, and her antecedents in general, people are, as they well might be, sceptical as to either of their Excellencies accepting such an entertainment. All the same, a large sum will pass out of her pockets into those of the birds of prey, official and non-official, who are buoying her up with extravagant hopes of improving her position and securing her claims for succession and dower, by these and other devices. To the general population of the late King's settlement, the idea of a festive demonstration within so short a time of the King's death, is repulsive.

THE new Bengal Civil Service Dinner comes off on the 28th, the Lieutenant-Governor, with whom the idea originated, presiding. The natives have not been asked to subscribe but have been invited. The Hindus among them, like Baboo Brojendra Coommar Seal, have expressed their readiness to join the party, without doing the eating or drinking. The *tertium quids* will be put to the test when the event comes.

The object of the dinner is plain enough, but its policy at this moment seems problematical. Whether it will conduce to harmony remains to be seen. Mr. Beames has declined to join.

THE Viceroy returned to the capital to-day.

## DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE.

### DEATH

HALDAR—On the 23rd November 1887, at Calcutta, Babu Rakhal Das Haldar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, at the age of 54 years and 11 months, leaving his widow and four sons and three daughters, the youngest unmarried.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1887.

## THE OPPRESSION OF IRRIGATION.

### A REVELATION OF ADMINISTRATION.

THE Irrigation Commission has been hailed with a burst of joy. Its appointment has caused a great sensation, and witnesses are crowding in from long distances to give their evidence. That sensation is the index to the very great need of the enquiry. Complaints are pouring in in streams, and from the accounts which have so far appeared in the *Indian Daily News*, which, by the way, is doing a great public service by reporting the proceedings of the Commission, the case for the Irrigation Department seems to be a hopeless one.

The Commission opened its sittings at Doomraon, in one of the Maharajah's garden houses. The scene presented was impressive. Large numbers of complainants, of all classes, Zemindars and tenants, retired Government officials, and officers of Zemindars, congregated the spacious compound, and among the tenants many had brought specimens of the worthless produce raised on fields watered by irrigation channel, which they heaped up before the place of meeting as rubbish not worth the while of being taken back. Indeed, this allegation as to the harmful effects of irrigation upon all soils other than sandy, opens a question of a fundamental character, the decision of which may strike at the very root of the much vaunted irrigation system. Deponents of great practical knowledge and experience, are at once in denying the benefits of irrigation, except in respect of sandy soils, nay more, irrigation does positive harm to the black soil. Samples of paddy grown on this soil with canal water, show the produce to be very poor, and unfit for human food, and even

bullocks fed upon the straw soon dwindled and died. Another point of importance calling for the most serious attention of the Commission, is the action of the canal system upon the natural drainage of the country, and its consequent effect upon health. Parts of the province which were famous for their healthiness, are known to have deteriorated, and this is ascribed to irrigation. Maulvi Nasuruddin, a Deputy Collector, says that Arrah was formerly regarded one of the healthiest districts and was resorted to by men from Bengal as a Sanatorium, but of late years malarious fever and spleen diseases had become very prevalent. Baboo Sheo Sunker Sahai, Assistant to the Dewán Jyprakaslal of Doomraon, said :—

"Irrigation by canal water was beneficial to sandy soil, and the crops grown thereon had greatly increased; but it was detrimental to *kurrail*, or black soil. Paddy grown on this soil, and watered by canal water, soon grew very poor, and almost useless for human food. The very bullocks which were fed with the straw in a short time dwindled and died. The stoppage of the natural drainage of the country, consequent on the net-work of canals, had been extremely prejudicial to health; fever and cholera were prevalent, and, as a matter of fact, whole villages had been depopulated. It was, of course, admitted that the canals afford an easy means of communication, but for this purpose, in witness's opinion, it would have been better had railways been laid down. With regard to the universal complaints of wrong assessment, where tenants were charged for more land than they irrigated, for irregular and illicit irrigation, and of oppression and alleged mismanagement of both the assessment and collection, his evidence coincided with that given by preceding witnesses. It was his opinion, from what he had seen in Gya and other districts, that the old system of irrigating by wells and *urrahs* was preferable to the present system; he did not admit that the area now under cultivation was larger than it used to be; on the contrary, he thought it was smaller, as large tracts of land formerly watered by the old system were now lying fallow. He considered that the tenants did not regard the introduction of the new system as a boon, and would prefer to return to the old order of things. As far as the Raj itself was concerned, witness thought it had not profited by the change. For instance, in the north of Bhojpur, the rental of the villages had decreased, and the tenants were so poor that only fifty per cent of the rates could be collected; but in those parts of the estate where canal water was not used, the full amount was realised. The Government tehsildars appeared first on the scene, and being armed with greater powers than the servants of the Raj, collected their rates by such stringent measures as they chose to employ, and the villagers usually had nothing left wherewith to satisfy the demands of the Raj. The tehsildars often seized cattle, which were sold in order to satisfy the Government claims, but this in witness's opinion was in direct violation of section 266 of the Civil Procedure Code which ruled that cattle and agricultural implements could not be seized for arrears of rates. Witness was formerly a Moonsiff in Government employ, and had travelled a good deal in Gya, Purneah, Chuprah, and other districts. He attributed the prosperity of the rayyets in those districts entirely to the indulgence of the Maharajah, and he was decidedly of opinion that the rayyets in districts under irrigation had been greatly impoverished of late years. In Doomraon, the assessment on *bhowlie* lands (i.e., lands on which the rent is paid in kind) was so high that in many villages where the Maharajah paid Rs. 500 as water rate, he could only realise Rs. 100 or Rs. 150 from the produce. He thought that the payment of the water rate in a lump sum was a hardship, and that the rayyets themselves preferred to pay it in instalments as formerly. The tenants complained that their petitions were usually unheeded; the Sub-divisional Officer seldom came to the spot to enquire into the complaints, and when here and there a complaint was investigated, it was invariably sent for report to the very officer against whom it was made. These officers trusted entirely to their ameens and patrolls, and the complaints were usually summarily disposed of by these subordinates. The rayyets thus had no confidence in the sub-divisional officers. He recommended that complaints should be enquired into by officers other than those connected with the department, and he strongly advocated the abolition of the magisterial powers at present vested in the canal officers. Failing this, he feared the present grievances would never be remedied."

Here is a catalogue of wrongs and sufferings, so long silently borne by the people. There seems to be no species of tyranny which does not lie at the door of the Canal Department. Whether they get water or not—whether the water does them good or harm, they must pay all the same. They must pay for 500 Bighas, to take any instance, even if only a hundredth part of that area should have received water. And the rates must be paid off in a lump. The measurements and assessments are, equally arbitrary, and there is no redress or remedy, the appellate authorities being as it were in a league with the overseer, the tehsildar and the patrol, in maintaining the corrupt system. The exorbitant rates assessed arbitrarily on fictitious measurements, are

collected with every incident of disgrace and injury. The Deputy Collector whom we have quoted, said that not only were Zenanas entered by the officers, but also personal ornaments—the women's *peculium*—taken away in satisfaction of the demands. To crown the infamy, there were cases, in which they had kidnapped children as hostages for the prompt payment of the dues. It would be something if the so-called legal demands were all, exorbitant as these were, and made up on a system of measurement and assessment which must be of the Department's own devising, and cannot possibly have the sanction of any law. But these dues are but a portion of what the oppressed tenants have to meet. There is an organized system of bribery which must be satisfied—the whole department is steeped in corruption. Really, Mr. Cotton has quite an Augean Stable to clean, but he is quite equal to the task. He appears to have thrown himself into the work with his usual zeal and energy, and we can hope that the great hopes which have been raised in the public mind will be realized.

#### THE WORKS OF GOD *VERSUS* THE WORKS OF MAN.

##### II.

THEN again there is the extraordinary variety of faces and features that we all remember, both those personally known to us and those merely recognised and remembered as belonging to neighbours and fellow-townsmen. It is probable that almost every human being recollects more or less distinctly, by name or face, not less than seven or eight thousand separate persons. This seems indeed at first sight an excessive estimate, especially for the inhabitants of small villages and out-of-the-way places, where the whole population is small and fixed, but it has been arrived at by careful calculation and observation of cases, and of the average of instances it is probably true. For one has to remember not only all the members of one's own family, one's personal acquaintances, but also hundreds and hundreds of other people, with whom our intercourse has been but very slight, yet quite sufficient to make one recollect them.

Equally astonishing, when one comes to look at the matter closely, is the immense variety of Scripture texts and phrases, fragments of poetry, stock quotations, bits of hymns, and other fragmentary portions of literature firmly held in everybody's memory. Who does not know hundreds and hundreds of familiar tags, such as "To be or not to be," "Man wants but little here below," "All flesh is gross," "Let dogs delight to bark and bite," and so forth *ad infinitum*? Add to these the general stock of common proverbs, "A bird in the hand," "A rolling stone," "Two of a trade," "The early bird" and all the rest of it, and then consider how vast is the accumulation to which they each separately bear witness. We are writing in English, but all these remarks would have equal force if they were written in the vernacular.

Or let us consider once more our acquaintance with the names, places, and facts of Scripture history, and then of history and geography generally. Try, for example, to recall to oneself all that every child knows and recollects about the Chinese Empire. Think first of the individual Chinaman, with his yellow skin, his oblique almond eyes, his twisted pig-tail, his queer dress, his clumsy shoes, his solemn demeanour; think then of his mandarins, his emperor, (or empress), his small-footed wife, his quaint little children. Recollect his porcelain, his willow-pattern plate, his curious drawing, his aerial perspective. Recall his strange writing, as seen on China or tea-chests, and let that in turn bring up to memory his tea, his silk, his opium, his lacquerware. Then remember his religion, his temples, his pagodas, his joss-paper; and so continue till all one knows about himself, his country, his manufactures and his customs is fairly exhausted, down even to his rice and his chopsticks, his ivory carvings, and his children's toys. Why, it is not too much to say that, if one were to write down deliberately in black and white all that an average schoolboy knows about China



and Chinamen, it would run to a list of several hundred facts, of which we have briefly enumerated a few. If anybody doubts it, let him take a pencil and paper for himself, and, after rigorous self-examination, allowing one point to lead up to another, write down in the form of a numbered catalogue every distinct and separate item he can possibly remember about the Chinese, their land and their habits. He will probably be astonished himself at the result of the experiment. For, recollect that we have said nothing at all here about Peking and Canton, Shanghai and Hongkong, the summer Palace and the great rivers, the square-holed money and the vermilion pencil, the roast rats and the floating rafts, or a thousand other familiar commonplaces of undigested popular knowledge. The truth is that every individual human being carries about with him in his own head, without even suspecting it, a vast collection of pigeon-holed facts and fancies, a store of memory such as may fairly surprise its owner himself as soon as he begins really to examine the marvellous wealth and variety of its contents. Cell after cell, and fibre after fibre, in the numberless minute elements of the brain, have been indissolubly connected by channels of nervous communication, impressed and modified by acts and ideas, till the whole has become a supreme register of past experiences, ready to be called up at a moment's notice by the wonderful power of association. After a survey of these facts, we cannot believe in the theory of evolution; it seems preposterous to say that man is descended from an ape. When monkeys display such marvellous powers of remembrance, even in its initial stages, we shall then only be converted to accept such a theory. Verbiage of language, and conclusions founded on logical sequences founded on false premises, carry no weight in the face of demonstrable facts. How the noblest work wrought by the hands of man sinks into insignificance when placed side by side with this little work of the Almighty, to whom man is obliged to offer homage, whether of free-will or of compulsion! Man, as a thinking reasonable creature, is constrained to acknowledge the might, majesty, wisdom, and presence of the Great God, as shown both in the small things His hands have wrought, and in His gigantic works as displayed on our planet. No wonder, says a man with a healthy well-balanced mind, that the angels and highest spiritual Intelligences veil their faces in the presence of such a Being! Little wonder, that they do not look upon ready and obedient service, perfect worship and adoration, as a mark of weakness, as a pledge of degradation. They enjoy perfect freedom and feel honoured in such service. Why is it so? Because they can fully gauge their own powers, and justly compare them with the attributes of their King and Maker, and they see such a vast difference between them, that a spirit of true reverence and homage is engendered resulting in willing happy service and worship. It is only poor, weak, vain man, who not only offers grudging service and worship, but presumes to call His very existence in question, and this man renders himself an object of contempt to the whole created universe.

L.

#### REFORM OF THE COUNCILS BY UTILIZATION OF THE EXISTING LAW.

Happy is the country where the laws rule and the people are parties to the making of the laws. India, it need hardly be said, can stand neither of the tests. Here the laws do not always rule. Not that 'the wicked prize itself buys out the law' but that offence's gilded hand, not unfrequently, shoves by justice and poor men innocent as the unborn babes are but too often ground by, and fall an easy prey to it; while so far as Europeans are concerned, why, it seems to be the cardinal maxim of English Jurisprudence that a European can do no wrong: the fault being not so much in the law as in the administration thereof. Nor are the children of the soil parties to the making of the laws. Have you, Mr. Editor, ever been to the Eden gardens where a board is put up with the words "No dogs admitted here?" There are similar boards at the doors of the Imperial as well as Provincial Legislative Councils, though you cannot see them with the outward eye, and they say "No men of talents admitted here." The reason is not far to seek. All Courts and Princes have, as observed by Lord Shelburne, a dread of talents, considering, probably, that with abilities is almost sure to be associated independence and character. Hence it is that titled Polonius's like Mir Humayun Jah Bahadur, c. i. e., and the Maharaja of Vizianagram, who render unto Cæsar both

what is Cæsar's and God's, have to be made perpetual Councillors of Madras, the term of office of the former having extended over a period of wellnigh twenty years, and we have had for our Legislators men who are neither born great nor have achieved greatness but have the greatness thrust upon them by the powers that be whom they very well know how to propitiate by making periodical pilgrimages to their ante-chambers. Nothing can be further from my intention than to assert that our successive Viceroys and Governors have never been able to get over the dread of talents. What I mean to say is that the instances in which the rule referred to above, has been relaxed are few and far between. Thanks to the occasional fits of generosity of the Imperial as well as different Local Governments, our Legislative Councils have now and then been vaccinated with genius and we have had men like A. Sastri and V. Ramiengar, S. Subramanya Aiyar and T. Rama Rao in the Council of the land of the Mulls; V. N. Mandlik and B. Tyebji, P. M. Mehta and Sorabji Sapurji Bengali, Dadabhoi Naorajee and J. Umia Shankar Yajnik, K. T. Telang and M. Govind Ranade in the Council of Duck Island; Ram Gopal Ghosh and Prasanna Kumer Tagore, Digambur Mitra and K. D. Pal, and Dr. Sirkar in the Bengal Council; and Sir Dinker Rao, P. K. Tagore, K. D. Pal, V. N. Mandlik and Raja Mohamed Amir Husain in the Viceregal Council. But since the votes are counted and not weighed, how can three or four native members hold their own against tremendous odds and influence the Council for good? On all important occasions, the independent native members are swamped by their official colleagues who are wise in their generation and as such take their cue from their master.

Ask, and it shall be given, seek, and you shall find, knock, and it shall be opened unto you, is a well-tried maxim in which lies the solution of some of the hardest of moral and political problems. Our long persistent agitation for the reform of the Legislative Councils has not gone for nothing. Is it not a step in advance to receive the following admission from the Great Mogul who now presides over the destinies of India?—"Nor do I regard with any other feelings than those of approval and good will their natural ambition to be more extensively associated with their English rulers in the administration of their own domestic affairs, and glad and happy should I be, if, during my sojourn among them, circumstances permitted to extend and place upon a more logical footing the political status that was so wisely given a generation ago to such Indian gentlemen as, by their influence, their acquirements and the confidence they inspired in their fellow-countrymen, were marked out as useful adjuncts to our Legislative Council."

But the reconstitution of the Legislative Councils on representative basis, as suggested by the Second National Congress, in order that they may keep pace with popular aspirations, though a consummation devoutly to be wished, is a question of time. I am not one of those who will have either a whole thing or go without it, for they that are so foolish have not unoften to wait till doomsday. Remembering that Rome was not built in a day, we ought, I should think, make the most of the existing constitutions of our councils and ask the Government in the meantime to give a decisive majority to the non-official members of councils and to allow these gentlemen to be nominated by the leading public bodies of the Presidency towns, at least half the members of the Supreme Legislative Council being chosen by the elected members of the Provincial Councils. The Indian Councils Act will not stand in the way of adopting my suggestion and giving a sop to Cerberus. Under Sec. XXIX of the same Act, the Legislative Councils of Madras and Bombay may each consist of 13 members, 5 of whom must be officials. What we ought to contend for is, let the remaining 8 seats be given to non-officials chosen by the leading public bodies of Madras, Poona and Bombay, in order that the real leaders of the country may find a voice in the councils. Be it said to the credit of Lord Reay's Government that out of 13 Legislators in the Bombay Council so many as 6 are natives, who are the real representatives of the intelligence and thought of the Presidency and whose appointment shows that the nomination of Syud Edrus, Aga Chungis Khan and other social ornaments as experimental Legislators, is not likely to be repeated and that the Lay of the Last Ornamental Councillor, so far, at any rate, as the Bombay Council is concerned, may be sung by Ram Chandra or Bharadwaj. The Viceregal Legislative Council may, under Sec. X of the above Act, consist of 21 members 9 of whom must be officials. Now if the remaining 12 seats be given to non-officials, proper and adequate representation may be ensured. The number of members of the Bengal Council is, I believe, fixed at 13 including the President—at any rate the Bengal Council has never consisted of more than 13 members. Under the existing law there is no restriction as to the proportion of official and non-official members except that not less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the Councillors must in every case be non-official persons. If the memorable speech which His Excellency the Viceroy delivered on the Jubilee day, breathing sympathy with the natural ambition of the children of the soil to be more extensively associated with their English rulers in the administration of their own domestic affairs, be not a mere cartload of rhetorical rubbish, he may suit the action to the word by at once giving 9 seats of the Bengal Council to non-officials and

by leaving these members to be chosen by the British Indian Association, the Indian Association, the Indian Union, the Chamber of Commerce, the Mahomedan Literary Society, the National Mahomedan Association, the Metropolitan Corporation and the Calcutta University. There are not a few men in these public bodies who have special knowledge of the Mofussil and who will be able to represent the Mofussil far better than any Mofussilite. Of the remaining two members one should be taken from Behar and the other from Orissa. By the way it is a pity that even in the administration of our present Lieutenant-Governor, who is to all intents and purposes a Behari, nay a Behari of Beharis, Behar should be unrepresented in the Council. Of course, we have among our Councillors a Deputy Magistrate having special experience of Behar. But what confidence can be placed in an official who has a constant eye to the three P's, viz., Pay, Promotion and Pension, and who knows to his cost that to be direct and honest is not safe. To imagine that an official with the sword of Damocles bare and bright hanging overhead, will not take care of number one but will measure his strength with his master "the fountainhead of honor" is to expect grapes from thorns and figs from thistles. Of course, there are officials and officials, but still the fact that representation by officials is decidedly worse than representation by those who have fortunately escaped becoming officials, needs only to be mentioned to carry conviction to any reasonable mind. It is also to be regretted that though the claims of the Bæotia of these provinces, I mean Orissa, to be represented in Council were recognised in '83, no gentleman has yet been appointed to succeed Kumar Baikant Nath De. It is, however, earnestly to be hoped that so long as the reconstitution of the Legislative Councils is not possible, the different Governments will see their way to give effect to the suggestions made above and purify the council chambers of the vile imposture which has so long infested their atmosphere. Of *councillors* like the Bania Knight, Sir Mongul Das Nathubhai, who had the audacity of impertinence to say in the council chamber that his countrymen habitually told fibs, or the Bania Raja with brass enough in his head to make a tea-kettle whose memorable speech in support of the Ilbert Bill strongly tempted me "to look towards his feet," to ascertain whether he was the gentleman whose name should not be mentioned to ears polite, or that mealy-mouthed, amiable Maharaja who officiated as an accoucher at the birth of the hideous monster conceived and brought forth in one day—I allude to the Vernacular Press Act—we have had enough and to spare. Let us have as our councillors natural leaders of different societies who keep in touch with public opinion, who have the stamina of calling a spade a spade, and in whose change we may safely leave the destinies of the Empire, so far as Her Majesty's Native subjects are concerned.

#### ANTI-HUMBUG.

\*\*\* We have taken a month and a half—during which it was lying ready in type—in making up our mind to publish this communication. We are not afraid of personalities, believing that what gentlemen may openly talk about is publishable and might be wholesome, but violence of speech is feeble and degrading, and insult to individuals cannot be permitted. We hope we have eliminated the objectionable element. The opinions, of course, remain the writer's, we have only taken the liberty to omit some of his legislative great guns, in order to redeem the context from absurdity. We still do not share his opinion of one or two of the names on his black list. To Raja Sivaprasad, of course, he was almost bound to be unfair: Our countrymen have not yet forgiven him his support of the Ilbert Bill. They never allow that a man, even a native, might honestly give that support. They despise for his weak subserviency the Raja who gave the clearest proof of extraordinary firmness and high courage. On the whole, however, ANTI-HUMBUG writes with spirit and writes to good purpose. He lets out some home truths. His scheme for the reconstitution of the Councils is worth considering.—ED. R. & R.

#### MONGHYR.

*Jamulpore, December 10, 1887.*

Since writing my last, another sad case of attempt at murder has come to my notice. The particulars, as far as I have been able to gather, are as follow:—Some miles off Kajrah station of the East Indian Railway, in a village, there lived a native Behari of the place

*Holloway's Pills.*—Nervousness and want of Energy.—When first the nerves feel unstrung, and listlessness supplants energy, the time has come to take some such alternative as Holloway's Pills to restrain a disorder from developing itself into a disease. These excellent Pills correct all irregularities and weaknesses. They act so kindly, yet so energetically on the functions of digestion and assimilation, that the whole body is revived, the blood rendered richer and purer, while the muscles become firmer and stronger, and the nervous and absorbent systems are invigorated. These Pills are suitable for all classes and all ages. They have a most marvellous effect on persons who are out of condition; they soon rectify whatever is in fault, restore strength to the body and confidence to the mind.

along with a sister-in-law of his. For some time past he had been in adverse circumstances and was on a lookout to better his prospects elsewhere; but in vain. Gradually, however, he came to conceive her sister-in-law to be a witch and the root of his misfortune, and then conceived a plan to get rid of her and, at last, determined to make an end of his miserable condition, managed to get a *Dab* somehow, and belaboured her with it. The blows were aimed at her throat. The culprit was challanged to the Sudder Court at Moonghyr for trial. The case, I hear, has since been transferred to the Sessions.

The remains of the late Mr. H. Dear who breathed his last some time last month, at Mussoorie, have been conveyed to his dear beloved place, Monghyr, for interment. The Volunteers of this place went in procession to attend the funeral ceremony of the deceased, as a token of respect.

The Municipal elections of the respective wards of this station came off on the appointed day and hour. A Bengali and a Behari has been elected for Noyagano ward another Behari Zemindar and an Up-country Marwari merchant for Keshobpur and Bazar wards respectively. There have been no returns for the English or Meer Yarali's quarters.

The domiciled Bengali Babus of this station are now seen to be up and doing for raising a fund for a *Barwari* Poojah after that of lower Bengal fashion, on a large scale. Many an enlightened graduate of the Calcutta University might laugh at it but the Barwari has its value and is not to be despised.

I am happy to be able to inform your readers that the *Sadboo* (ascetic) *Madbo Das* has been gradually improving his health and will be discharged from the Hospital shortly.

The Rate-payers of the Jamalpur Bazar, &c., I hear, have sent in a notice to the Chairman of the local Municipality for the compensation of breakage of Pucca Drains, &c.

The climate of this place now may be said to be pretty fair.

#### BENGAL GOVERNMENT, ORDERS.

GENERAL.—The 21st November 1887.—Baboo Peary Mohan Banerjee, Deputy Collector, Patna, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VII (B.C.) of 1880 in that district, *vice* Deputy Collector Baboo Khetter Mohun Mitter.

The 2nd December 1887.—Baboo Nadia Chand Dutt, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Khoorda, Pooree, is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector under Regulation IX of 1833.

The 9th December 1887.—Baboo Surya Coomar Agasti, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Rajshahye, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

The 10th December 1887.—Mr. W. H. H. Vincent, who has recently been appointed to be a Member of the Covenanted Civil Service, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Dacca Division, and is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Dacca.

The 12th December 1887.—Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, who has recently been appointed to be a Member of the Covenanted Civil Service, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Burdwan Division, and is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Midnapore.

Mr. W. C. Muller, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Goalundo, Furreedpore, is transferred to Chittagong, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

Baboo Bepin Behary Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kandi, Moorshedabad, is allowed leave for one month and fifteen days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 5th January next.

The 13th December 1887.—Baboo Dwarka Nath Bose, Sub-Deputy Collector, Julpigoree, is appointed to act, until further orders, as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, and is posted temporarily to Silligoree, in the district of Darjeeling.

In supersession of the order of the 2nd instant, Baboo Mohesh Chunder Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bogra, is transferred to Monghyr, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Baboo Syama Charan Mitra, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, is transferred to Khoolna, and is appointed to have charge of the Satkhira sub-division of that district.

Baboo Monmotho Coomar Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nuddea, is transferred to Beerbhoom, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Baboo Bhoobun Mohun Raha, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Beerbhoom, is transferred to Mymensingh, and is appointed to have charge of the Netrokona sub-division of that district.

JUDICIAL.—The 8th December 1887.—Baboo Promotho Nath Banerjee, First Subordinate Judge of Mymensingh, is allowed leave for six months, under section 128, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

# REIS & RAYYET

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

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No. 303

## THE WANDERER'S ARRIVAL IN THE HOOGLY IN MOONLIGHT NIGHT.

Soft hour, fair vision, oh ! loveliest scene !  
Day's glories, night's shadows had chased,  
Even darkness itself from that hour would glean,  
Those charms which its beauties had traced.

Far away o'er the waters, that mighty one now,  
Heaven's wanderer, had sunk in the wave,  
And the fierce blaze of light from his fiery brow,  
Was entombed in night's shadowy grave.

And the stillness of evening like passion asleep,  
Lent a charm to the scene, and arose  
The pale orb of night from her couch on the deep,  
To shine on a world in repose.

Oh ! fair as a picture of fancy the scene  
That softened that heavenly hour,  
Creation in all that was lovely was seen,  
Enrobed by that loveliest power.

That loveliest power whose charms I would share,  
And gaze on its beauties for ever,  
Oh ! breathe to my soul but a promise as fair,  
As the beam on thy waters, sweet river.

I ask but for hope, on my being once more,  
To shed its soft spirit, its balm,  
And give to a wanderer now on the shore,  
A life like thy waters, as calm.

Soft hour, fair vision, oh ! loveliest scene,  
Ye smile on my desolate soul,  
Life's sorrows, sad visions, have hitherto been  
The shadows that darkened the whole.

Flow on then fair river, to thy bourne speed away,  
And smilingly haste to the sea ;  
On thy shores I will seek for a future that may  
Shine fair as this scene upon me.

## NEWS AND COMMENTS.

AN Irish Nationalist Club elected Lord Randolph Churchill a member and expelled him the next day.

BABU Pramatha Nath Chatterjee, Portrait Painter, has sent for notice what he calls a "complimentary sketch to the members of the National Congress of India." The conception shows some merit.

COMPLAINTS continue to appear in the papers about the non-issue of platform tickets for the Sealdah station. The case is typical of many other large stations on this side of India. The female passengers are certainly the greatest sufferers by the prohibition. We think that, under the peculiar circumstances of the country, every female passenger should be allowed to take a servant or relation with her in order to be safely escorted to the railway carriage. It might not be convenient or practicable to extend the privilege to all third class passengers in general.

M. SYUD KHAN, Corresponding from Dinapur, prescribes the following treatment for the throat complaint of the German Crown Prince:—

"Let the Prince eat every day at his dessert, at least a dozen of sweet green color mulberry fruit (not black mulberry, which is sour) and await the marvellous cure it makes."

It certainly is a sign of the times, an index to the spread of interest in foreign affairs, and the increase of newspaper circulation, that Indian readers should not only take an interest in the reports about the disease of the heir apparent to the Imperial throne of Germany, but sustain that interest to the extent of proceeding to prescribe remedies therefor. In medicine, as in other matters, fact is often stranger than fiction, and the remedies proposed in Indian newspapers might be worth being brought to the notice of the illustrious patient.

THE Home remittances last week amounted to £3,55,800.

THE Revd. Mr. Hastie has succeeded at last. Mr. Steel having withdrawn all imputations against the Revd. gentleman and paid him £300 costs, the case of defamation which had gone all the way up to the House of Lords, is withdrawn.

THE "Barrow Millionaire" is dead. Several years ago Mr. Schneider guessed that Barrow-in-Furness contained a valuable iron ore and began prospecting for it. He worked at it long until he had exhausted all his capital and could pay the workmen no longer. The workmen, grateful for the employment so long afforded them in that obscure corner, were willing to labor for a week more without pay. So they worked. Next day they struck a rich vein, proving that Schneider's instinct was right. Thus he grew rich apace and many of his neighbours with him, more or less, according to his part in the new industry or in subsidiary occupation, and all the people of the district reaped a fine harvest. A thriving town arose in the desert as it were. And the lucky guesser has just died leaving a vast fortune.

MISS FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE is seriously ill.

THE despoiled Zemindars of Arni Gad have, through Captain Hearsey and Mr. Henry Vansittart, have served the usual two months' notice

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

on the Secretary of State for recovery of their lands, estimating the damages at Rs. 5,000 actual and Rs. 5,000 prospective.

THE year is not to close without a conquest. Mysore is to be annexed—postally. The Durbar had the amiability to ask the Government of India to introduce British postal stamps in place of the Anche system of payments, which, however, does not pay. In reply, our Government was willing to take full and absolute charge of the postal arrangements in Mysore; and the Durbar, while arguing that “the Anche system in force in the State is an ancient institution, the extension of it throughout the Province in the year 1672 being one of the earliest measures adopted in the reign of the Maharaja Chikka Devaraj Wadayar” and hence hesitating “to sever the State’s connection from so old an institution and one peculiar to Mysore,” has agreed to the absorption of the local to the Imperial British Postal Department.

There are 170 regular post-offices in Mysore in charge of postmasters and 253 village post offices presided over by local schoolmasters, village accountants and others.

AMONG the Jubilee presents to the Pope, is the return of a picture by Annibale Caracci of the Ecce Homo. It was stolen from the Vatican by a French soldier at the time of the departure of Pius VII. It next had various owners, the last being a priest in Burgundy. He was prevailed upon by Monsignor Lécot to give up the picture. The Bishop presented it personally to His Holiness with a further round sum as Peter’s pence.

THE following is worthy of preservation as a record of the conduct of two of its officers and the collective wisdom of the Bengal High Court of Judicature:—

“Original Jurisdiction,—December 22, 1887.

(Before the Hon’ble Mr. Justice Wilson, the Hon’ble Mr. Justice Pigot, and the Hon’ble Mr. Justice Trevelyan.)

THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ATTORNEYS.

His Lordship, Mr. Justice Pigot, this afternoon, read out the judgment delivered in the case of Mr. C. F. Pittar and Mr. C. N. Manuel, attorneys of the High Court, as regards their conduct in reference to a fraudulent deed which had been executed and witnessed by them. The Court dealt shortly with the facts which led to the matter being referred to the Registrar of the Court to enquire into the conduct of Messrs. Pittar and Manuel, who were subsequently called upon to answer questions affecting their conduct, on the deposition and exhibits taken before the Registrar. In respect to the case against Mr. Pittar, the Court, in exercising their summary jurisdiction, remarked that it was of great importance to elucidate and determine if any misconduct had been proved, and if it was of such a nature as to require their suspension or removal from the roll of attorneys. The Court was of opinion that, as regarded the examination, &c., of the title-deeds, Mr. Pittar had committed a serious violation of his duty towards his client, Sew Bux, the mortgagee, and that in much of this unfortunate transaction, he had acted at the bidding or suggestion of his clerk. The Court, however, would discard from its mind all suspicions and only act on proved facts. It had been proved that Mr. Pittar had received from his client, Sew Bux, Rs. 15,000, which was not to be made over to the mortgagor, Soshree Bhosun, unless he was identified by Mr. Manuel, but Mr. Pittar had made over the money on what was no identification at all. He had, therefore, first disregarded his duty in respect to the title-deeds of the property, and then his duty to his client, as regarded the identification of the mortgagor, by omitting to follow the instructions he had received. It was difficult to separate one part of the case from another, but the Court would take nothing as established against Mr. Pittar, unless it was proved clearly to justify a conviction in a criminal case. The Court could not hold that Mr. Pittar was privy to the fraud; all the probabilities were that he was not; and their Lordships did not think they would be justified in finding that he was privy to it. Having regard to the circumstances under which Mr. Pittar acted, the Court had to determine if the motive was a fraudulent one, and the only motive for his conduct was that by the completion of the transaction, he would receive Rs. 500. There was nothing to suppose that this was a temptation to commit a fraud on his client. That he violated his duty by disregarding the instructions of his client, there is no doubt; but was it a fraudulent violation of duty, and, apart from profit, did he contemplate any injury to his client, Sew Bux, whom he would lose as a client by acting fraudulently? The Court, considering all the circumstances, were unable to find those elements of fraud in Mr. Pittar’s conduct, which rendered it a duty to suspend or remove him. The Court thought that he certainly completed the transaction in disregard of his duty, but without any fraudulent intention or loss to his client, which had been clearly established. His slovenly negligence was most culpable, but short of fraud, and this much was clear, that it was one of a most disreputable kind. Mr. Pittar, however, had been severely punished by the anxiety of mind and the expense of these proceedings, and no further orders would be passed in the case.

In respect to Mr. Manuel’s case, it stood on a different footing from Mr. Pittar’s. The large sum he had received was not for any violation of duty. There was the fact of the receipt of Rs. 2,000, but the enquiry had not elicited any evidence of fraud, misrepresentation, or

complicity. There was nothing in his conduct to call for either suspension or removal, but their Lordships could not dispose of the case without expressing their strong condemnation of his conduct. It was true that it was not shown that he had neglected or betrayed the interests of his client, and whatever his position, he was right in admitting the acceptance of the Rs. 2,000 without any excuse. But his consenting to go through a farce at the Registrar’s office was utterly unworthy of the profession he belonged to. He went through what he perfectly well knew to be a mere sham, and their Lordships trusted that the expense entailed would have the effect of strengthening the hands of the great majority of the profession who perform their difficult duties in a manner worthy of their importance and dignity. No further orders would be passed also in this case.”

THIS is the text of Mr. Grévy’s Message of Resignation:—

“So long as I had only to contend with the difficulties accumulated of late in my path, the attacks of the press, the abstention of men whom the voice of the Republic called to my side, and the increasing impossibility of forming a Ministry, I struggled on and remained where my duty bade me, but at the moment when public opinion, better informed, marked a change which gave me the hope of forming a Government, the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies have voted a double resolution which, under the form of an adjournment to a fixed hour in order to await the Message that had been promised them, is tantamount to a summons to the President of the Republic to resign his post. It would be my duty and my right to resist; but under the circumstances in which we are placed, a conflict between the Executive Power and Parliament might entail consequences which restrain me. Wisdom and patriotism command me to yield. I leave to those who assume it the responsibility for such a precedent, and for the events which may ensue. I relinquish then without regret, but not without sadness, the dignity to which I have twice been raised without soliciting it, and in exercising which I feel conscious of having done my duty. This I call France to witness. France will see that for nine years my Government has secured for the country peace, order, and liberty; that it has made France respected throughout all the world; that it has worked unremittingly to raise her; and that in the midst of an armed Europe it leaves her in a condition to defend her honour and her rights. It has, moreover, been able, at home, to keep the Republic to the wise course marked out by the interests and wishes of the country. France will say that in return of this I have been removed from the post in which her confidence placed me. In leaving political life I form but one wish. It is that the Republic may not be struck by the blows aimed at myself, and that it may issue triumphantly from the dangers which it is made to incur. I place on the bureau of the Chamber my resignation of functions of President of the French Republic.”

ACCORDING to Truth,

“The death of Lady March, young, beautiful and accomplished, has greatly shocked and grieved her friends. She is another victim to defective drainage. Her bedroom adjoined the bathroom, and the waste-pipe from the bath was not trapped, so sewer-gas was constantly flowing into her bedroom. Lady March, I believe, used the tainted bath, and presumably became saturated with the poison, for she was quickly attacked by typhoid fever.”

No wonder that human beings should not be able to stand sewer gas. We have before us at this moment more than one remarkable instance of its effects on lower animal life. Our feline friends find at once their comfort in summer in the cool water closet (connected with the street drain) and their safety at all times from the inhumanity of miscellaneous humanity. We have vainly tried to keep them out of it, with the result that both the poor things who most resorted to the retreat are suffering. One is dying a slow death, with hectic fever, &c. Another, a kitten whom we one day prevented drinking the filthy water, is rapidly sinking.

After all, the sewer is not so unkind as cruel ruffianly men. We have just lost a grand specimen of a Tommy, of uniform black, with a long sweeping tail like a *morchal*, in the bloom of robust boyish health. Poor Kálay Khan, as he was called, was one morning this week found dead in the court-yard, apparently killed by a blow on the head by a brute of a man. It is possible God’s justice on him!

THEY held a meeting at Bombay, under the presidency of Sir Dinshaw Manojjee Petit, to consider the advisability of raising a testimonial in honor of the Rao Saheb Viswa Nath Naryan Mandlik, “for his great and distinguished services to this country generally and Bombay in particular.” A Committee has been appointed to fix upon the form of the testimonial. Rs. 5,000 was subscribed on the spot. The “reformers” are in a rage.

A LONDON detective, armed with a warrant under the extradition treaty quietly granted, has left for the Continent after a middle-aged baronet, wellknown in society, charged with having seduced and decoyed from her parents the daughter of a professional man. The girl is described as a “young lady of thirteen.” She is evidently a Girl of the Period, considering that, for a long time before suspicion, she

used to steal out of home and quietly meet her grandfatherly lover in the neighbourhood of Brompton and be driven about in his brougham. In due course, she was taken to a house of assignation in Pimlico. There the matter might have stopped, but, we suppose, Nature threatened a discovery of the neat little affair of temptation and fall. Hence the elopement and exile of the loving pair. An effort was lately made to hush up the scandal, but the interference of the law had gone too far.

FOR the last two years or so, the Army and Navy Club, London, has been missing articles of silver plate of the handier sort. In vain the authorities tried to discover the cause of the loss. Nay, they continued to lose for all the care they took of their things. Many of the servants were changed, still the robbery went on. At length, notwithstanding the scandal involved and the inconvenience, they placed the matter in the hands of the Police. The Police likewise were baffled. At last, the Club submitted to be served by detectives disguised as waiters in their employ. All to no purpose. The robbery proceeded more rampantly than ever. One evening, in September last, as many as thirty spoons, forks, &c., were lost. It goes without saying that the members themselves did not escape suspicion. Is it possible that a virulent epidemic of kleptomania had broken out? Otherwise, the store-keeper and the head servant ought to know where the things went to.

Latterly, Captain Green, R. N., Secretary to the Club, has been offering, through the papers, a reward of £100 for information that might lead to the conviction of the offenders concerned. But, in trying thus to trace the origin of the Club robberies, he has become the victim of theft himself in his own house, whose number and locality he had given in the advertisements aforesaid. One evening, as he was in the dining-room of his residence in South Kensington, he was informed of the appearance of a Scotland Yard officer at his door who sought an interview on the business of the Club depredations. He was called in and treated and left after confiding to the host many practical remarks and hints, all which Captain Green carefully noted.

Not long after this knowing man had left, the amazed host discovered the coats left in the hall gone as also some fine umbrellas and sticks. They had all left in the wake of the visitor, who was not exactly of, though he certainly had relations with, Scotland Yard.

MR. PHIL ROBINSON, formerly of the *Pioneer*, one of the finest humourists of the day, has been put in charge of the sporting and dramatic *Sunday Times*.

ON application under sub-section 2 (a) section 101 of the Bengal Tenancy Act VIII of 1885, a survey and a record of rights have been ordered by the Lieutenant-Governor of 5 estates in Pergunnah Barbakpore comprising about 200 mouzas, belonging to Rajah Haranath Roy Bahadoor of Dubalhati. We trust this puts an end to the war that has been raging between the Raja and his tenantry for sometime, and hope the Raja will now be able to turn his attention to his small debts.

FROM 1st January 1888, a telegraph office for public and service inland messages will be opened at Raharia station on the Tirhoot State Railway.

OFFICERS of the Army in civil employ, who have no political or special uniform prescribed, are directed to wear, at Levees, Drawing-rooms, and State Ceremonials, the uniform of their corps or department.

GOVERNMENT have agreed to accept cheques in payment of the Income Tax.

SIR COMER PETHERAM has now gone to the desert to spend his Christmas. The sympathising Sir John Edge has arranged for a party to the Falls of Rewa.

MR. H. H. SHEPHARD, Government Pleader, Madras, is promoted to the post of Advocate-General lately held by Mr. P. O'Sullivan deceased and latterly by Mr. J. H. A. Branson, Mr. B. Powell being

taken in as Government Pleader. Mr. Branson reverts to his own as Crown Prosecutor.

SIR THEODORE HOPE made over, and Sir Charles Elliot assumed, charge, on Thursday the 22nd, as Public Works Minister. Sir Theodore retires from 5th January next after 35 years' service.

LORD DUFFERIN has been pleased to accept the Patronship of the Kasi Ganga Prasadini Sava of Rajg Sivaprasad. We hope with the Committee that the required funds will not now be long in coming in.

ON his way down to the winter capital, the Viceroy opened the Ganges bridge at Benares and named it after him—the Dufferin Bridge.

MAHA MUDALIYAR has grown to be a terror in Ceylon in the favor of the Governor, like the Sarvani in Travancore basking in the sunshine of royal patronage. A memorial to the House of Commons is said to be in circulation against the Governor, complaining of the increase of natives in the Civil Service, most of whom are related to the favorite Mudaliyar. But why a representation to Parliament over the head of the Colonial Secretary of State?

THE mail (Dec. 22) brings the news that the ringleaders in the late Trafalgar-square riots, Messrs. Cunningham Graham, M. P., and Mr. Burns, have been committed to the Central Criminal Court. The committing magistrate, Mr. Vaughan, is satisfied that there had been an unlawful and riotous assembly. He further holds the opinion that the Square is absolutely vested in the Crown, and that Sir Charles Warren had reason to apprehend violence and was, therefore, justified in prohibiting the meeting.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

A MERRY Christmas and a Happy New Year to our readers and friends!

THE Viceroy's Levee on Tuesday night was one of the largest attended and unattended. The Private Entree returns give Natives 20 and Europeans 82 or a total of 102 names. In the Public Entree, the number of natives comes up to 224 and that of Europeans to 690. The New Presentation List records 87 Natives and 168 Europeans. Besides 83 Natives and 168 Europeans were unavoidably absent. About 1,300 thus invaded the Government House, while 250 kept away.

We hope some care will hereafter be taken to prevent unseemly displays among the Durbaris fresh from the dinner table.

WE are very sorry to receive the following news:—

Nawab Sir Ikbal-ud-Daula of the Oudh family, died at Baghdad on the 21st instant. He was made a Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India in May 1882. He had been very infirm for some time past.—Press Commissioner.

ON this, the *Statesman* exclaims:—

"Might not the Press Commissioner have supplemented news so utterly bald as this, with a brief account of the Nawab's life, and of the services for which he received this distinction. The Press Commissioner's office was established by Lord Lytton at our own suggestion, but was systematically abused under Sir Roper Lethbridge's conduct, to mislead the public. We believe that the 'office' might be made a most valuable means of communicating information to the community, without either compromising the Government, or detriment of any kind to public interests: but then it would have to be conducted with absolute honesty, and not by a Roper Lethbridge."

They want not only a Press Commissioner but also a native Herald and master of ceremonies. But the men for the posts are not easy to find.

With regard to the deceased, there are not half a dozen men in India or out of it who could tell who Ikbal-ud-Daula was or how he came to be at Baghdad. This point was tested five years ago. When in 1882 the Nawab was created a Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India, everybody asked who he was. There was not a paper to answer till *Reis and Rayyet* spoke. In our impression of July 1, 1882, we published an account of the Nawab just dead under the title "The Wandering Nawab." He read it and wrote from Baghdad to a



member of his family in India, to express his astonishment at the fidelity of the narrative. He could not imagine how his life should be so well known in India which he had long since left for ever, and specially as he had kept the secret of it through all his wanderings.

THEY order the matter in quite a Benighted fashion down South. Anybody can set up a lawyer in Madras and may be authorised to act. Not only Collectors and Subordinate Magistrates but even Police Inspectors grant Sunnuds to anybody to plead in their Courts. No wonder that these favorites are popularly believed to act, as 'brokers,' in delicate matters, such as murders and dacoities, and other trifling offences, and get the cases dismissed, for a *quid pro quo*. A common practice is to take out a Licence on stamped paper, cost eighteen rupees, for practising as a Pleader, and pass off this certificate of payment as an equivalent to a professional diploma, on easy-going Magistrates.

AT the last Sessions in Hongkong, William Hogg Wolsely Markham, late Paymaster on H. M. S. *Esper*, was charged before Mr. Justice A. J. Leach, Acting Puisne Judge in the Supreme Court of the Colony, with (1) feloniously forging a certain authority for the payment of \$5,000, with intent to defraud; (2) feloniously uttering a certain forged authority for the payment of \$5,000, with intent to defraud; and (3) feloniously obtaining from one Thomas Carroll Dempster, Paymaster in the Army Pay Department, certain securities for money with intent to defraud. The prisoner pleaded guilty and defended himself, thinking, not without reason, that the best way of subduing the sternness of justice in his favour. He had little to say however. Relying on the evidence of his previous good conduct, he appealed to the court in mitigation of punishment. Justice was not to be so easily charmed, and Judge Leach dwelt on the enormity of the offence and passed a sentence of imprisonment for five years, with hard labour.

"LAW was law in 1810" in England. It is so yet in Ceylon. In Colombo, a Singalese has been sentenced to one year's imprisonment, for stealing an umbrella which had been left at the entrance of a Church by one of the worshippers in the edifice. This is justice with a vengeance, to be sure.

Blindfold stands the form of justice,  
With the sword and scales;  
She is white-robed, she is noble,  
Lacking sight she fails.

In her scales men fling their judgments,  
These she fairly weighs;  
But her soul would wither could she  
But her bandage raise.

False the weights that fill her balance,  
Often wrong is put for right,  
Right for wrong—and she must blindly  
Raise the sword and smite.

Perhaps, the indignation of the bench was roused by the accused not resisting temptation in the house of God. But Hunger cannot afford to make fine distinctions. For the matter of that, after all, the poor fellow was in the same boat with the respectable sinners who convert churches into Vanity Fairs and a place for making unhallowed love.

A MADRAS newspaper noticing the aforesaid Ceylon case, says that, at one time, not long ago, there used to be frequent thefts of umbrellas left in the lobby of the High Court—where these articles are considered dangerous "weapons" likely to discompose the dignitaries on the bench—thus affording opportunity to 'cute persons for an exchange in their favor. But, surely, nobody thought of suggesting such severe retribution for such practices. Among the natives who sit on the floor, there is such danger to shoes left at the door from certain sharp people that, in larger gatherings, people are with difficulty persuaded to sit down, and even when they do sit they sit uncomfortably with their shoes on. There is little to choose, after all, between different communities.

THE Senate of the Punjab University has cancelled the last Examination in Law, exception being made in favor of one passed candidate

named Churamanj. Mr. Bell has been appointed Registrar *pro tem*, till a competent man for filling the offices of Registrar and Principal of the Oriental College, may be imported from Europe. It is said Professor Max Muller has been requested to send a proper person. Government, it is said, will soon appoint a Commission of Covenanted Civil Servants to inquire into the charges against the late Registrar Mr. Larpent, who is not a Covenanted Civil Servant, and held his Registrarship under the University which is independent of Government. But any absurdity is possible in India, and specially in model administrations on the frontiers. Under the circumstances, it is vain for the poor natives represented by the *Tribune* to cry light and ventilation. If there was any desire for a real and thorough investigation into the late University scandals, the Government would have appointed a machinery more likely to command public confidence. If some independent gentlemen were associated in the enquiry, the *modus operandi* would not so much matter. After all, what is the object of these repeated inquiries unless it be to "white-wash" some *persona grata* and discover a pretext for a decent hushing up? We suppose those on the spot already know all the essential facts. By this the matter ought to have reached the precincts of judicature, or Government should have Resolved and passed the necessary orders. There seems a strong family likeness among the Lyalls as heads of administrations.

THE progress of microscopy bids fair to revolutionise the science of medicine, or, for the matter of that, our notions in general. Just now, for instance, the punctuation theory is the pet palfrey, and it is ridden, by all and sundry, without compunction wheresoever it lead, whether to death on the d——l. Our readers will remember the German conclave of doctors that came out to India to inquire into the Cholera. That inquiry had before baffled the ingenuity and research of no end of individual men of science, and periodical conferences of them, national and international. But Dr. Koch and his colleagues came, saw and conquered. In a trice, they unravelled the mystery, discovering the source of the dread disease in a comma-shaped minute organism. The cause known, the disease was easy to manage. It was all a simple matter of punctuation. Mind your punctuation, cries learned Dr. Koch, extirpate the comma bacillus, and you conquer the plague.

The Dutch have taken a leaf out of their High Dutch neighbours. What the cholera is in India Proper, that the Beri-beri is in the Archipelago—a fearful pest. The old European travellers are full of the horrible details of this scourge. It reigns as of old, breaking out in epidemics of great virulence from time to time. The Dutch Government lately sent out a scientific commission to Java to inquire into the malady and, if possible, discover the cause and hit upon the cure. The chief of this committee of research is Professor C. A. Pikelharing. As usual in these days, armed with the microscope, these savants invaded the beri-beri-stricken Netherlands India and have succeeded in their commission.

THIS is how we are treated even in respectable quarters:—

"Mr. P. L. Roy, barrister-at-law, a Bengalee, has had the pluck to allow himself to be summoned by the Municipality for not taking out a license for his carriage, although he had the license in his pocket. The presiding Magistrate was equal to the occasion, and ordered him to be paid Rs. 25 compensation. I hope License Inspectors will take notice, and may Mr. Roy's shadow never grow less!"

We cordially join the writer in the wish expressed but not in his spirit. As for that, we hope Mr. Roy will survive the sneer of even the Calcutta Currency department of the *Indian Planters' Gazette*. He is bound to take care that his shadow does not, in the queer current phraseology adopted by the writer, "grow less." He cannot afford to lose any part of his bodily substance, of which his share is exceedingly limited.

But why this gibbetting of poor Roy? We may tell our contemporary's contributor that Mr. Roy is better than a mere barrister, being well-born. He belongs to a well-known family of Brahman Zemindars. His father was one of the finest types of the old Hindu, of great intelligence, manly, with a high sense of honour, noted for liberality, and pious. The District of Backergunge owes much to him and the family. Mr. Roy is a worthy member of it. What should he have done to escape the scorn of the Anglo-Indian scribe? Was it so very wrong to attend the Police Court, with his license in his pocket to answer a charge of not taking out a license? Where was the

wrong? Was it wrong because it was so dramatic as well as effective? Ought he, as a native, to have made a foolish exhibition in Court and got fined, even though he had paid for his license? At any rate, is it because he is a native that he is reckoned fair game by these writers? He has the misfortune to be a Bengali in Bengal.

THE Public Service Commission has ended its labors, and the members are dispersed and dispersing to the four corners of the world whence they came. The final sitting was held yesterday when the members signed the Report for presentation to Government. The President made a short speech in which he acknowledged the thanks of the Viceroy to himself and conveyed His Excellency's thanks to the members.

Mr. Stokes, of the Madras Civil Service, left for his Presidency by today's P. & O. Co.'s steamer. The Raja of Bhinga and Messrs. Quinton, Nulkar and others left by last evening's train. Mr. D. S. White, the President of the Eurasian Association of the South, and some others are still in town.

The Report of the Commission will be made public as soon as the Secretary of State's permission is obtained. We are not permitted to mention its findings and suggestions, but its general character may be guessed from the fact that it has been unanimously adopted—not a single Dissent has been recorded. Yet it was not adopted in hot haste nor assented to perfunctorily. Every point was carefully considered—sentence by sentence the whole was discussed.

NO man has of late years fought so persistently for the recognition of the claims of the Native soldiery than Captain Andrew Hearsey, in the columns of this journal. His articles in *Reis and Rayyet* are bearing fruit; one by one his points are being conceded. Orders have been passed for 400 of the Order of Merit of the three Classes and 100 of that of "British India" for the Native Army.

SIR ALFRED LYALL'S persecution of Captain Hearsey has had its inevitable effect. As patient of today, according to the Bengali proverb, is the doctor of tomorrow, so the whilom martyr is the champion of the hour. The Captain's sturdy advocacy of the cause of the Arni Gad Rajpoots in especial, is turning him into a confidant of natives with grievances in different parts of Upper India. He has lately taken up a case of spoliation of a religious trust in Benares endowed by a member of the Peshwa family. He has already had some correspondence with Government, who, in their habitual way, have virtually refused a hearing. They do not know their man. Hearsey is not to be silenced by Secretariat evasion.

Capt. Hearsey was at Benares when the Viceroy was there. He was in Calcutta at the beginning of this week.

BHOPAL is threatened with an unexpected calamity. We are grieved to learn of the serious illness of the young heiress, Bilkis Jehan Begum. She is the only daughter of the reigning Begum's daughter, Sultan Begum, by her husband Nawab Sultan Doolah. It is over this child, now some twelve years of age, that the quarrel between Shah Jehan Begum (the ruler)—instigated by her wily and ambitious husband Siddiq Hassan Khan—and her daughter Sultan Begum, culminated and is still maintained by grandmother—a quarrel that has been the original cause of most of the troubles of the family and of that dire misgovernment in the State which at length forced our Government, through Sir Lepel Griffin, to interfere. This was the little Princess who, by her beauty and grace, her intelligence and winning activity, made such an impression on those who saw her at Government House two years back. This fair flower—the hope of Bhopal—is now in peril. She is suffering from fever, of a typhoid character we believe. In the beginning of the week, the bulletins were more hopeful, but on Thursday, in answer to a telegram, the poor father wired that her condition was critical. May the Sole True Physician come to the rescue!

Vain hope! as, since the above was written, news has been received that poor Bilkis has succumbed yesterday.

WE appeal to Lord Dufferin's chivalry to take the poor womankind of the late King of Oudh's Household under

his especial protection. With the death of their lord—in every sense—their condition is wretched enough, without harassment from Government or in the name of Government. If the vultures of whom we wrote on the death of the king, are shut out, the Harem would seem to have only obtained a change of ornithologic species. They have been consigned to the mercy of the Agency favorites and their creatures. They have no means of protection from abuse—no access to friends. If the Agent visits them, he is usually accompanied by his understrappers. In fact, he communicates through them. Complaint is out of the question. They are being bullied out of home and effects, and sent adrift without any provision. Many still stick out, clinging to the old place, in which they have lived so long in comfort under their Consort or master, but it is a sore struggle. Under the circumstances, they fall an easy prey to the designing who buoy them up with hopes of serving them. It seems to us unaccountable that Government should drive these princely ladies out of their husband's house without their consent and before making a suitable provision for them.

IN another will be found the deliverance of the Mahomedan Literary Society of Calcutta on the National Congress. It is of course a repetition of the last year's manifesto from the same quarter. We deeply regret it. On all hands, it is a lamentable document—for Mussulman no less than Hindu; for the Literary Society and its distinguished Founder-Secretary as well as the Congress. It is a national misfortune. The Mahomedan abstention would not have mattered so much. The last year's fulmination might be taken as an outburst of personal irritation or an outburst of panic at a call to advance to the unprepared. But this repetition gives the thing serious import. At any rate, the enemy will be sure to give it.

We can understand the Mahomedans holding themselves aloof. We sympathise with them. They *could* not join the Congress last year, and there has been no change of situation since. But it is one thing to decline relations and, another thing to condemn. This despatch looks like hostility—has all the appearance of a counter movement—though doubtless it is not meant for anything of the sort. In that view, it is an offensive blunder.

But the responsibility is not all on the side of the Mahomedans. As on the last occasion, it was we who invited disappointment and chagrin. We sadly lack in judgment. Was it not enough to have once offered our face for a thundering slap?

BEFORE our next issue, the Congress will be over. Notwithstanding the Mahomedan defection, and the mismanagement of Bengal, there will be grand goings on in Christmas week at Madras. The enthusiasm and organization of Madras, with the assistance of Bombay, are sufficient to make the meeting a success, unless the incursion of the Goths of Raghunath destroy everything. We have sent a contingent, small but valiant, in defence of the constitution and the empire.

THE great Surrender Not has left with a shipload of Baboodom, of every degree, to be cribbed, cabined, or confined,—exposed on the upper deck or stowed away in the hold, like Niggers on the middle passage, according to circumstances and luck. Whatever other enjoyment or distinction they may miss, they are sure to have a good December drench in the sea, and a suffocating ride on the surf.

AT 6 O'clock in the afternoon of Sunday last, the platform of the Sealdah terminus of the Eastern Bengal State Railway was crowded with visitors awaiting the arrival of the Heir Presumptive to the throne of the Principality of Tipperah. The whole of the East Bengali settlement of Calcutta was in attendance, besides many well-known members of Calcutta society, chiefly natives. Had there been proper and timely notice, doubtless there would have been a still larger gathering. As it was, it was a remarkable demonstration such as has rarely been accorded to any Chief or personage. Men were there, at any rate, who do not take note of when and how greatness, official or unofficial or princely, enters or exits.

No doubt when the train stopped, the Rajbari people, in their usual way, scrambled to get in so as not to leave room

for other gentlemen. The Prince, doubtless, catching sight of the Kazilbash hat and enormous turban before he discovered the man, himself called us in, and we may say, received us in due form. For to our greeting—not Neo-Persian but true Aryan—he, like a Kshattriya Prince, responded in respectful *pranam*. In consideration of the European General's uniform he wore, we, by way of supplement, offered him our hand and cordially shook his, showing that a man's a man for a' that. Baboo Jogesh Chunder Dutt was beckoned to enter and the Bara Thakoor offered him his hand and exchanged with him a few kind inquiries.

Nawab Abdool Lutef, seeing the Tipperah people's funk, brought forward Baboo Lal Mohan Ghosh and introduced him. Then he took the Bara Thakoor down to the platform where so many were waiting and one after another introduced them all. The Prince gave his hand cordially to every one.

Kaviraj Gangaprasad Sen's nephew, Bijayratna Kaviratna, now read an address in Sanskrit, for which the Prince thanked the givers. The Prince was then driven to the furnished house prepared for him in Wood Street.

A stupid cooked account has appeared in some of the papers. The Prince is said to have singled out Mr. Radha Raman Ghosh, his father's Secretary (who had preceded to town to make arrangements), for the honor of reception, in his compartment. And were the independent gentlemen who had come to do the Bara Thakur honor treated to a course of the cat? Secretary Ghosh, having secured his due, Assistant Secretary Bose comes to the fore. For all his self-consciousness he modestly calls himself Baboo.

His favourite vice

Is pride that apes humility.

But there his meekness stops. The arrangements in the station were his doing; alone—among the natives—he did the arduous work. What was there so much to do, we cannot imagine. For, after all, Bose merely assisted Hart, the station master, and great praise is given to Hart too. Even if Bose did any wonders, he is paid for his duty. His partner too will get his *bucksheesh*. If Bose or Ghosh expect to pocket *kudos* besides their pelf, that is matter for a separate report to their master. And then names of a number of gentlemen present are published in the order in which they were supplied by the Tipperah Lord Chamberlain, the briefless son of the Maharaja's Mooktear and the celebrated Doctor Nanda L. Roy and the no less renowned Dr. P. M. Gupta, of course, receiving precedence above such small fry as Nawab Abdool Lutef Bahadoor and Rai Grish Chunder Das Bahadoor and Baboo Keshub Chunder Acharya Chowdhry. The ingrates altogether suppress the gentleman without whom there would have been no reception here, there, or anywhere, in order to make capital for themselves, and a subservient press seconds them. The whole account is an insult to the gentlemen who came to pay a graceful compliment to the scion of an ancient royal house, and they will think twice before they again venture on such a thankless task, even for the Maharaja.

On Tuesday, the Bara Thakoor Bahadoor was received by the Viceroy and on the following day by the Lieutenant-Governor.

FROM not feeling confidence in the interested rumours in circulation, we have not yet been in a position to place before the reader reliable information about Nepalese affairs. It is no use giving news today for contradiction tomorrow. One thing is clear. The raid of Ranbir Jung is not an adventure of knight-errantry or a gambling stake of mere courage, but a deep and deep-laid plot with wide ramifications, within and without. Where Ranbir now is, there is no knowing, except that he must be in Nepal and making towards Katmandoo, cautiously of course. It was a mistake to think, as was mentioned in the papers, that he was losing time with a small following on the Southern frontier. His people are in the Segowlie side, as others of the party at other frontiers, to distract the usurpers and divide their forces, if possible, and divert attention from the main coup. It is said that his family have seized the Jaleswar station.

It is not true that Mr. Girdlestone is a partizan of the party in power and ill disposed to Ranbir Jung.

THERE need be no fear of a "little war" with Sikim. The Viceroy has had enough of it in Burma, and Sir Steuart Bayley is not likely to sacrifice in an ambitious policy of aggression and annexation the impression he has been privileged to make.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1887.

### THE SECOND MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

THE triennial municipal elections are generally over. There was greater muster of voters, a larger number of candidates, more active canvassing, and keener contest on the whole, than on the first occasion. To judge by the result, oral voting appears to have taken well, and, although a few aristocratic people here and there would not attend the polling places, the abuses to which written voting is liable must weigh against its trial. Oral voting may be made more acceptable by observing a general holiday, and by more patience and encouragement on the part of the presiding officers. The correspondence of the *Statesman* shows some elections to have been hurried through, which is not fair. The general election may be held all over the Province on the same day. The difficulty of finding sufficient number of Gazetted officers to preside is a difficulty of the Government's own creation. If Sub-Registrars and Sub-Deputies can hold elections, why not other respectable men holding no office under Government? Honorary Magistrates have been pressed to the Service, and, with a slight alteration of the election rules, the difficulty will be avoided. And the election taking place on one day, it will not be too much for Government to grant a general holiday once in three years. Talking of election rules, we are reminded of some recent cases which have shown the need of a revision in other respects.

The elections just ended, have, no doubt, disclosed defects in the existing law and procedure calling for amendment. The district officers may be left to utilize their experience in this respect towards suggesting needful changes. One point occurs to us just now, namely, the absence of some restriction upon candidature by which only "proper" men, to use the language of the old Municipal Act, should be entitled to stand. Cases have occurred, in which persons were nominated from motives of levity, and only to put a slight upon, and scare away better candidates with perhaps sensitive feelings of respectability. A washerman of Bonhugli in the practice of his calling, with no education, and innocent of any such ambition, was nominated by some mischievous fellows. These had no mind to press the election through. Indeed, under the circumstances, this would have been impossible, for the poor *dhobie* was only a consenting tool in their hands as far as the preliminary stages went, while all along he protested his helplessness in the matter. The wire-pullers, however, would not let him withdraw his name till the last moment, when some very good candidates had already retired from the ludicrousness of engaging in a contest with their *dhobie*. None would object to a candidate, merely because of his caste, if he is otherwise eligible. But here there is no serious intention itself to stand to the end, but merely a play of ingenuity—a taking advantage of the law's overliberality—to do some mischief. Surely, such pranks might be stopped without affecting the principle of the law. Magistrates always get a scent of such cases, and ought to be able to deal with them as they deserve.

The elections have not always resulted in the return of the best candidates. As might be expected, the elected are for the most part representatives of the electorates. Where an electorate

is of advanced education, the representatives chosen have been men of intelligence and character; where it is backward, the representatives are of an inferior calibre. Of course, there may have been different results here and there due to the character of the canvassing, but our observations are only general. That the candidates chosen should reflect the character of the electorates, is perhaps as well as it is. The electorates are naturally anxious that there should not be too great moral or social distance between them and their representatives, and though this may not be right, and may lead to disappointment, the electorates must have their political education through practical experiences as well as others. We believe there is vitality in the elective principle and an inherent capacity of righting itself in the long run.

The interest of the elections has now transferred itself to the Government nominations, and those disappointed at the hustings, are besieging the bureaux of officials in full force. There is no end of petitioning and counterpetitioning, and no little washing of dirty linen through anonymous and pseudonymous correspondence. The district officers have a hard time of it, and upon how they are able to resist the backstairs influence brought to bear on them, depends their good name as well as the future of Local Self-Government for the next term. District officers are supposed to know their district, but how far they will act on their own independent sources of information, remains to be seen. Weak officers are likely to play themselves into the hands of designing busybodies. It is an important responsibility, however, which rests upon Government, and, on the way in which it is discharged, hangs the very life of the elective system. The power of nominating one-third of the Commissioners, may be so exercised with due regard to local peculiarities, as to supply what the elections may have failed in giving. The claims of minorities, and even of individuals, may be recognized. There may be cases where the nominations might well go upon the results of the elections, candidates just missing to be elected being appointed to represent Government. In fact, Government nominations differ little from elections, in respect of the character of the men secured by either process, and so far as this is the case, great force is lent to the contention of those who would have no nomination at all, or reduce the proportion of it. There are, however, circumstances, and situations may well be conceived, where the retention of this prerogative in the hands of Government would be essential. For the most part, however, it may save officers from committing awkward mistakes if they follow the lines of the elections. Above all, they should select men who fulfil the condition of possessing local interest and knowledge, and against whom there may be no suspicion of partizanship.

### MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE.

#### WOMAN IN THE EAST AND THE WEST.

WHAT is the West coming to? Suits for divorce have grown to a nuisance in America. The accounts are incredible—the numbers fabulous. In Chicago, alone, in five courts, over one hundred cases were put down for hearing in a single day. No wonder, they have started a National Divorce Reform Association, which is said to be doing good work. Divorce has become a fashion in European countries, chiefly in America, the land of liberty and license. The slightest disagreement between the married couple, arising from temper, habit or what not, is cause sufficient, to seek the protection of court. Naturally,

there are already among thoughtful men a growing reaction against the policy of the law of divorce. The West is certainly reaping the consequence of making the untying of the nuptial knot too easy. Unfortunately, the remedy is not so obvious as the disease. The National Divorce Reform Association has not only a Herculean task before it, seeing that modern civilization itself must be in its way, but also a most puzzling problem to solve. In their helplessness, they might perhaps remember *Ex Oriente lux*. As in the past, so in the present, the strong restless West might seek wisdom of its tranquil and philosophical old teacher the East. It might be a trial to the pride, but happiness is worth the cost of a considerable sacrifice, and, unless Europe and America were prepared to remodel their social and domestic institutions by the light of the long experience of the older communities of Asia, there is little prospect of amelioration in their condition, and they must continue publishing the joys of their married state through the courts. They need not, of course, to use an expressive vulgarism, "go the whole hog." The East is not all one; peopled by many races, several systems are in operation, for periods more or less long; but the governing principles are a few; indeed, there is a remarkable unity of purpose in almost the whole of Oriental society touching the relations of the sexes. We do not claim for Asia any absurd superiority over Europe, inferiority in many important particulars being manifest. Man is backward in Asia, and woman more backward still, society is but men and women in aggregation. The East wants reform, notably in the education of woman. There may be danger in that; possibly the enlightenment of the sex may open the door to the introduction of the very evils which have grown rampant in the West. It is to be hoped we shall escape this liability, if we do not abandon our better traditions and swamp our nobler instincts, and can manage to maintain our social and domestic edifice in the main intact. If, instead, we allow ourselves to be allured by the *ignis fatuus* of Western Europe and America and Australia, and in thoughtless haste pull down our own to build after a model of which we know little and understand less, we shall ourselves invite our own destruction, and pave the way to a degeneracy to which the demoralisation and misery of the most wretched class in the most "go-ahead" community in Christendom is angelic elevation itself. On the other hand, the reform needed for the West, is to assimilate institutions towards an Easterly direction. The difference is this: The East wants more light and freedom—the dazzled and riotous West requires a lamp moderator and a curb.

After so much grave prosing, perhaps the oppressed reader yearns for something light. So here is an anecdote by way of a refresher.

The learned Allatius would not take holy orders, so his friends pressed him to take a wife, but Allatius would not marry either. Yet he had no strong aversion from either life. He neither hated the Church as a vocation nor woman as a companion. He simply could not make up his mind. The responsibility of the vow of the Church as well as that of the vow of matrimony was too keenly felt by him to allow him to risk a decision. In this state, he long remained useless unit of imperfect humanity, as he was deemed, by friend and foe alike. At last, the Pope offered to reason with him, but His Holiness had no chance. 'Why do you not enter the Church?' asked Alexander VII. 'Because I could not marry then,' answered Allatius. 'Why not marry, then?' cried the Holy Father. 'Because then I shall not be able to be a priest if I wished,' said the other. After that the Pope gave it up.

### OPPRESSION THROUGH THE POLICE AND COURTS AND COMPENSATION FOR IT.

IN November 1886, in the Jhansi District, the house of a woman named Jhankai was broken open at night, her servant murdered and she herself wounded. Next morning, a sword and the blade of a sword-stick (*goofli*) were found inside the premises, but no other discoveries made. On the 10th of the same month, the Sub-Inspector of Police, Hur Lal, was entrusted with the investigation. One Badul was suspected. But the Police avoided following up the information against him. On the contrary, Badul presented himself at the Police station, and, on his information, the house

of two men, Mahomet and Manu, were searched under direction of Har Lal. In that search, the Police came upon in Mahomet's house a scabbard which fitted the sword found in the woman's house, and a sheath fitting the *goopli* blade was found in a drain running out of the house of Manu under a *chubutra* into the opening. On these discoveries, Mahomet and Manu were charged under sections 302 and 460 of the Indian Penal Code. The Magistrate, after a careful and a local investigation, was of opinion that the charges were also and discharged both Mahomet and Manu. He also ordered prosecution of Badul as the perpetrator of the offence against Jhankari and of Har Lal for giving false evidence. Badul was in due course sent up, convicted and sentenced. The Sub-Inspector too has got his due. The Sessions Judge and Commissioner of Jhansi found him guilty and ordered five years' rigorous imprisonment. There was an appeal to the Allahabad High Court against the last order, and Mr. Justice Straight has confirmed the conviction and sentence. We quote the concluding portion of the High Court's judgment:—

"The Magistrate, who tried him with very great care, in a very clear and practical judgment, has most fully examined all the facts bearing in evidence against the appellant, and has stated very fully and intelligently the reasons that led him to the conclusion, that, in the deposition which the appellant made upon the trial of Manu and Mahomet, he gave intentionally false evidence. Having read both the translation of the evidence which has been made by our Trial Clerk here, and the translation rendered by the Sheristadar of the Magistrate's Court in his evidence below, I have no doubt whatever that the appellant did state, and did intend to make the Court understand by such statement, that the scabbard, which fitted the *goopli* that was found in Jhankari's house, was discovered in the drain of Manu's house, and in such a part of it that it must have been put where it was found by some person inside the house and from inside the house; and that it was not in such a position as it could have been put in by any person from the outside. In support of that statement the appellant undoubtedly said that the sheath was in such a position in the drain that water had first to be poured in to see if it would run through, and that the drain had to be dug up before the sheath was discovered. It is sworn by three independent witnesses for the prosecution that the sheath was so near the inside end of the drain in the house of Manu that one Ram Petshad was able to put in his arm not quite up to his elbow, and draw it out. And they further say that such digging up as did take place, took place inside the house and after the sheath had been discovered long before. The Magistrate, I think, most properly interpreting the meaning of the appellant to be what I have said it was, and, believing that he intentionally gave that evidence for the purpose of deceiving the Court that was concerned in the trial of Mahomet, has convicted the appellant of an offence under section 193 of the Penal Code. It seems to me if anything more conclusive were required as to what the appellant wished to make the Court believe, it is to be found in the evidence of Mr. Brown, the Magistrate before whom the appellant gave his deposition. He swears that the appellant with his own finger pointed out to him in Court, upon the plan which the appellant had prepared, the place where the sheath was found at a spot marked G in it, which is obviously inside the wall of Manu's house. The Commissioner approved of the finding of the Magistrate, and I most thoroughly endorse it and the sentence that he has passed. Anything more reprehensible than conduct of the kind on the part of a police officer it is impossible to conceive. Magistrates, Sessions Judges, and High Courts, have to rely upon their truth in these matters, and in cases of life and death, where the finding of property connected with a murdered person is so often regarded as one of the most important pieces of evidence of the crime, it is imperative that the police should understand that they are to tell the truth and the whole truth, and if they give false evidence, as this man has done, for the purpose of deceiving a Court, that they will undoubtedly receive condign punishment. The appeal is dismissed."

So far so good. But to confess the truth, these cases always leave on us an impression of insufficiency. If the guilty receive their due, do not the innocent too receive what is *not* their due? If Badul and Har Lal have been punished for their crimes, have not Mahomet and Manu also suffered for the sins of others? Is it enough to discharge them? Ought not society, in its own interest, to reimburse them, as far as may be, for the risk they ran and for all the loss and privations and anxiety and ignominy to which they were subjected? At any rate, a pecuniary mulct might, in such clear cases, be added to the personal punishment on the conspirators and oppressors and awarded to the victims. The law should be reformed in this behalf. The principle is already recognised. Here is a subject of which we make a present, with the compliments of the season, to Mr. Phillips, the rising jurist of the Bengal Civil Service. The Press too might discuss it with advantage. If, besides, the Judges took fitting occasions to express their minds, a great blot on the administration of justice might be soon enough removed.

#### LANDLORDLY PRETENSIONS.

Here is an exact picture of an iron tyranny beneath the yoke of which thousands of poor men of Kartikpur groan helplessly.

Ahamed Kafil Ooddeen Chowdhry, a big Zemindar of Kartikpur in the District of Faridpur, has levied a blackmail on his Rayyets at the rate of annas 6 per rupee on the rent to celebrate his step brother Serajooddeen Chowdhry's marriage, which took place the other day. The latter is a schoolboy on the same mess with the former.

Why did the poor Rayyets suffer themselves to pay the blackmail? you may ask.

The reply is, who dare run the risk of embarking in a crusade against such a powerful despot, to encounter many in order to get rid of one danger? Who will endanger his personal safety for the sake of avoiding a pecuniary sacrifice such as this?

Whoever knows the position of the poor Rayyets under their powerful despotic Zemindars, knows it well that it is impossible on their part to attempt to complain against their Zemindar without undertaking a dangerous risk of entire ruin.

I feel there is a limit to all human patience and that I should be unworthy the principle I hold, if I shrink from encountering any personal risk and making any sacrifice whatever in thus attempting to draw the attention of the able District Magistrate to the above mentioned blackmail.

The marriage has been more than splendidly celebrated at the expense of the poor Rayyets, the bombs have already been fired to the surprise of the rustics, and the dancing girls have returned home, but the bitter groanings of the poor have taken the shape of silent tears flowing in torrents.

A SUFFERER.

To the Editor.

#### Public Paper.

From---Nawab Abdool Luteef Bahadur, C. I. E., Secretary to the Mahomedan Literary Society, Calcutta.

To---The Secretary to the Congress Committee, Madras.

Many thanks for your kind invitation to attend the Congress. The Committee of the Mahomedan Literary Society of Calcutta regret however their inability to accept the invitation as they do not anticipate any benefit to be derived from further present discussion of difficult and momentous questions likely to occupy the deliberations of the Congress. The Mahomedan Community are fully convinced that the Government are doing their best to promote the best interests of all classes, consistent with the requirements of the various nationalities constituting British India, and financial exigencies to which the Government are perfectly alive. The Mahomedan Literary Society prefer not to embarrass the Government when our Noble Viceroy and his able Counsellors are devoting themselves to consider how best to meet the natural aspirations and needs of the Natives of India. Telegram.

22 December 1887.

#### BENGAL GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

GENERAL---The 19th December 1887---Baboo Baroda Das Bose, Sub-Deputy Collector, Palamow, Lohardugga, on leave, is transferred to Bhagulpore.

Baboo Horo Chunder Ghose, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Hooghly, is transferred to Lohardugga, and is posted to the Palamow sub-division of that district.

The 20th December 1887---Mr. C. A. Wilkins, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Bhagulpore, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of District and Sessions Judges, with effect from the 4th September 1887, *vice* Mr. J. P. Grant, on furlough.

Mr. J. Crawford, District and Sessions Judge, Nuddea, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of District and Sessions Judges, with effect from the 12th instant, *vice* Mr. C. A. Kelly.

Mr. J. Scobell Armstrong, Collector of Customs, Calcutta, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 15th November 1887, *vice* Mr. W. M. Clay, on furlough.

Mr. C. H. Vowell, Magistrate and Collector, Midnapore, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 6th instant, *vice* Mr. T. Norman.

Mr. L. P. Shirres is appointed to act, until further orders, as an Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. E. N. Baker, with effect from the 8th instant.

Mr. G. G. Dey, Officiating District and Sessions Judge of Pubna, is allowed furlough for ten and a half months, under section 50, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st February 1888.

M. J. G. Ritchie, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serampore, Hooghly, on leave, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Howrah, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. E. V. Westmacott, or until further orders.



THE Drink Question is still exercising the Austrian Government. They have introduced a legislative measure against the free and unrestricted sale of spirits in Galicia.

"The reason alleged is the alarming deterioration in the physique of young men enrolled for military service, owing to the spread of spirit-drinking amongst the humbler classes. Spirit shops are to be closed at five on Saturday afternoon, and to remain so till five on Monday morning. Ordinary storekeepers are not to be allowed to sell spirits, the sale of which is to be restricted to public-houses, confectioners, and specially licensed stores. Dealers serving spirits to intoxicated persons are to be liable to arrest or fine. No debt for spirits consumed on the premises can be recovered by law if the amount exceeds the value of five litres. The Magistrates are empowered to forbid retailers to serve spirits to habitual drunkards for any period up to twelve months. Similar legislation already exists in all Austria. The proposal now is to extend it to Galicia. The preamble of the measure sets forth that it is a direct outcome of the Hygienic Congress."

IN his new book, Mr. T. A. Trollope thus speaks of Charles Dickens's charm of manner :—

"This was a charm by no means dependent on his genius. He might have been the great writer that he was and yet not have warmed the solid atmosphere wherever he appeared with that summer glow which seemed to attend him. His laugh was brimful of enjoyment. There was a peculiar humorous protest in it when recounting or hearing anything specially absurd, as who should say, 'Pon my soul, this is too ridiculous! This passes all bounds!' and bursting out afresh as though the sense of the ridiculous overwhelmed him like a tide, which carried all hearers away with it, and which I well remember. His enthusiasm was boundless. It entered into every thing he said or did. It belonged, doubtless, to that amazing fertility and wealth of ideas and feeling that distinguished his genius."

THE same writer says that Walter Savage Landor always dropped his aspirates :—

"He was, I think, the only man in his position of life whom I ever heard do so. That a man who was not only by birth a gentleman, but was by genius and culture—and such culture—very much more, should do this seemed to me an incomprehensible thing. I do not think he ever introduced the aspirate where it was needed, but he habitually spoke of 'and, 'ead, and 'ouse."

AN old member of the Council of the Secretary of State for India Sir Robert Montgomery, is dead. Son of a clergyman, he was educated at the Military College of Addiscombe, and joined the Bengal Civil Service in 1828. He successively rose to be the Judicial Commissioner of the Punjab, Chief Commissioner of Oudh and ended in India as the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab. He retired in 1865 and was admitted in the India Council.

THERE has been destruction of another English theatre by fire—the Grand Theatre at Brighton. The fire was discovered about midnight after a performance. No casualty is reported yet.

THE Benighted seems resolved upon being the "go-ahead." Madras has certainly taken the lead in the employment of women in the work of testing the results of female education. For the Higher Examination of Women, three ladies, all of European descent, have been appointed Examiners, one for English Dictation, Composition and Paraphrase, the second for Geography and Indian History, and the third for Needle Work. For the Middle School Examination, five such ladies have been appointed, all in the English branches; in French one; and in Geography and Indian History two young ladies. For the Special Upper Primary Examination in English subjects, three ladies again; in Geography (English) a Missionary's wife; and in Needle Work, a European young lady. Only one native lady appears on the list, Miss Govindrayulu, appointed examiner in Telugu. The local *People's Friend* naturally complains of the difference.

*Holloway's Ointment.*—Miners and workers in the Goldfields.—This invaluable and renowned Ointment is extensively used and patronized by such people to their very great advantage, being easy of application and portable in small compass. When used in conjunction with Holloway's Pills in accordance with the clear and concise directions for use which accompany each pot and box, there are but few of the diseases which afflict mankind which will not yield to the sanative powers of the combined remedies. Holloway's Ointment and Pills do not deteriorate by keeping nor by change of climate, and as they contain no deleterious mineral drug, they can be used with the most perfect safety under the most adverse climatic and sanitary conditions.

## NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

DR. LIETNER has again triumphed over the Civil Service. The Secretary of State is said to have sent orders for his reinstatement in his offices at Lahore or the payment to him of adequate compensation. Without committing myself to any view of the doctor's case, we confess that we are not sorry for this turn of the affair. No doubt, the ignorant interference of the Home Government is apt to be a calamity, but then Governments in India are usually so reckless of individual rights, so indifferent to complaints, and indeed so supercilious in tone to petitioners, that an occasional snubbing from higher authority is required to keep them straight.

OUR Mahomedan friends have awakened to the importance of education and Government is aiding them in their efforts. In accordance with the recommendations of the Education Commission, the Chief Commissioner of Assam has just offered certain scholarships to successful Mahomedan students at the University Examinations. Every such boy of the Province passing the Entrance, is declared entitled to a Junior Scholarship, and again to a senior scholarship when successful at the Firt Arts. In connection with the subject, the *Lucknow Express* passes the following eulogium.

"The Mahomedans are a race possessed of much latent power, and capable of exceptional development were they once to emerge from the shell of their exclusiveness and join in the march of progress which the steam-engine and the printing press have made one for all the world."

WE have lately been noticing the Madras complaint of unprofessional pleaders with which the Districts of the Presidency are flooded.

The *Tirhoot Courier* avers that Mozufferpore is unusually rich (?) in Mooktears (law agents.) This is a profusion of possession on which we are not inclined to congratulate the place. Rich *in* Mooktears probably means poor *by* them. Particularly when our contemporary doubts very much if all persons professing to be Mooktears, are really so much as even that, or did pass the prescribed legal or educational test, or indeed any test whatever. The mystery is thus explained :—

"We find men changing their names after passing the Mooktearship Examination. They explain this by saying that the name by which they were known before they became Mooktears was one of their numerous *aliases*. We rather think that the practice of buying vernacular certificates either directly from their poor owners, or from the relatives of such owners, in cases where the owners are dead, largely prevails. Equipped with such certificate the wouldbe Mooktear appears at the Mooktearship Examination, putting forward the names appearing in the purchased certificate as his real name, which was so long concealed from the world, and adds to it the name by which he has so long passed as an *alias*."

That is not perhaps put as well as we have a right to expect from the quater, but the drift is plain enough. There is doubtless a screw loose somewhere. Again :

"Next come the cases of such persons who avail themselves of false personation from beginning to end. That is to say, pay some one, or more persons, to appear at both the examinations for them. In such cases the change of name does not take place; but the examinations are passed by the wrong party or parties under assumed names and the first examination is passed at a place where the examinee and his employer are least known."

So an audacious system of fraud has been in vogue for a long period, to the infinite evil of the country, sapping the foundations of the judicial machinery, discouraging education, and making a mockery of the law in the very courts. That discloses the fundamental weakness of the British administration. All alien government is, no doubt, liable to this sort of thing, but it need not be so bad as this. Such corruption on such a scale could be possible only from the wilful isolation of the governing British camp. We are sure non-official Europeans who have dealings with the people and go about among them to some extent, are aware of the bold bad practice. At any rate, as the *Tirhoot* paper says, nothing is so easy as to find out the black sheep, if the local officers take up the matter. Will they do it? Are not the Mooktears of Behar a powerful interest, with influential supporters? If they do not, the Government will do it for them, though both Sir Stuart Bayley and his Chief Secretary are Beharis.

THE Pakshima Kayests of Durbhanga District have raised a subscription to erect a temple of Chitrugupta. Who is he? may ask the reader. Let the correspondent of the *Tirhoot Courier*, from whom we have the news, answer. Chitrugupta "according to the Hindu Vedas and Shastras is the root and great grandfather of the Kaests." The lead

in this hero-worship has been taken by Babu Joogul Kishore Prashad. He commenced with the composing of many metrical pieces in praise of, and hymns to, the debilitated Paton. Some of the caste, which were soon broadcast in the District, and after a time commenced to hold meetings of the devotees, with the happiest results.

Much of this success is doubtless owing to the social and religious improvement attained of late by the bangga, both town and country, as a seat of Hinduism. Not long ago, it was a miserable place, the superior influence of the British notwithstanding. Inhabited by Sudras and low castes, without the light of holy or learned men, local society was a collection of men steeped in ignorance and irreligion. There was no provision for the moral education of the people. No learned Pandit read and explained to them the Sastras. According to the usual custom of the country—

"The religion of this was to say that almost all the parts of this District are populated by Sams (Sams) and Telis (oil sellers), but on account of its being near the Zillah a good many Pandits, gentlemen, leaders, Mohitars, Amildars, have come from other places—hence it has at once changed its fashion, and it is seen that in every Mohalla Kathas are read while country from every quarter gather to listen. Mr. Editor, a few days ago took place a commendable Katha (preaching) in the lodging of one Baboo Bimwar Lal pleader, this gentleman is pious and orthodox. Two learned Pandits read Kathas in two separate mohallas, one in Doondooma in the lodging of one assistant accountant Moon hee Rajwasi Lal, and the other in the lodging of Baboo Darbun Lal, accountant, moonsiff's court, here almost all the gentlemen and amildars used to come to listen to Kathas (preachings) and every day, after preaching, reiterated shouts of Hare Ram Hare Ram are raised."

THE High Court has admitted Mr. E. Sims' (of the Baniarpore Indigo Factory in Firoh) appeal against Mr. Ligon's order convicting him and sentencing him to a fine of Rs. 1,200.

UNDER the heading "Is it a book seller's trick?" a correspondent of the *Indian Union* informs the public—

"A few days ago Sooraj Narayan, a student of the Benares College, received a parcel from E. K. Surma, Book-Seller, Calcutta, which was stuffed with waste paper; notwithstanding, he had to pay the price Rs. 26 ans. On referring the matter to the Post Office, he met with a cold reply that the book seller was to blame. The Book-Seller on being written to by the Head Master, replied that the Post Office devil must have been at work."

The book-seller may be to blame, and, no doubt, many rogues among us have, of late, taken to printing, publishing and book-selling or to pretence of publishing, &c. But the carrying agencies are *sans reproche*. There are a great many black sheep in them. Our mangoes were always purloined from their baskets in their transit by railway. Robbery of valuables by Post Officials is still far from rare.

Here is the latest instance of Post Office doings in the line:—

"A rather novel case is at present being tried at Cawnpore by Mr. Budge, Joint Magistrate. It appears that a few mornings ago a postal peon received, in the usual course of business, a money order for Rs. 500 to be paid to the Elgin Mills. A short while after he left the Post Office, he returned and handed back Rs. 500 odd. On being questioned as to his strange conduct, he said a brother peon of another branch had met him on the way, and after giving him some sweetmeats asked him for Rs. 500, promising to replace it with new sugar in an hour or so, and he had given him that sum. On this the police were thrown into motion, and on the other peon that replied he had been charged about Rs. 900 worth of jewels for only Rs. 500, and he saw no reason why he should not get more on them by making them to another man. But he had not the Rs. 500 to render them for, on the fact mortgagee, so he hit upon the happy notion of getting the money from his brother peon Rs. 500 from the Elgin Mills. With this he went direct to the man who had his money, and he then pledged them to another man for a further sum, and he returned to the spot where he expected he would have found the other peon, in order to return him the Rs. 500, but found he had been deceived. He then proceeded to the Post Office where he found his money in the hands of the police. He now tells his brother peon a tale, and says if he had only waited a little longer, he would have had the Rs. 500 back, and none would have been a bit the wiser, and would have been in pocket the surplus over the Rs. 500 for which he mortgaged his property the second time. As it is both men are now in the hands of the police. Neither the Post Office nor the Elgin Mills have suffered by the transaction."—*Morning Post*

What the P. O. often and justly fulms in, is the humility that becomes human agencies. The officials are at once proud of position and contemptuous towards weakness of humanity in general. They are irritated at complaints and loath to receive suggestions. Just now the office is in a correspondence with His Highness the Presidency Post Master, which illustrates this temper of the Department. The correspondence is not closed, but it is some time since our Manager last wrote.

Two natives and a European have been shipped from Ceylon to Australia against their will. The natives belong to the class of jewellers who visit vessels in harbour to effect some sales if possible. The European was Sergeant Luke of the A. and S. Highlander, who is in the habit of coming on board steamers to watch for deserters. All three were too busy to take note of time until they discovered to their consternation that the vessel had slipped her moorings and was quietly steaming out of harbour. Even the gangway was up. There was nothing left then but to jump into their boats. Neither Asiatic nor European seems to have been equal to the feat. Perhaps, the latter was handicapped by inability to swim. Tommy Atkins was, indeed, quite at sea. So they are all transported to Botany Bay. They must work their way back as galley slaves, scrubbing the deck or carrying coals to the engine-room. Luke will probably be glad to come away on such terms, but the prospect must be appalling to the Tamils. This is going the round as an amusing incident that occurred on board the *Britannia* in Colombo harbour. And the account is spiced with gratuitous ridicule and abuse of the poor natives, though, of course, the *Briton* is spared. For our part, in sympathy for the plight in which all three suddenly found themselves, we fail to see any amusement in the story. It is more distressing than funny. These victims of a great marine engine may well speak to these jesters of the press in the language of the frogs in the fable to the boy tormentors. We would not care to take this notice of the matter had it been a casual exceptional incident. But we fear it is far too common. It is unfortunately the prevailing practice among Europeans of a certain age and class to take advantage of the ignorance and meekness of the natives to confound their wits, to put them on the wrong scent, to send them after mares' nests. This is called "chaffing," but it deserves a stronger name—*mischief*. We are almost afraid that some who could have saved the native jewellers by a timely warning did not for very fun apprise them of the danger they were incurring by tarrying on board beyond the fixed time. Now the victims are packed off to the Southern Ocean, do they feel any remorse, we wonder?

We suspect the authorities of the steamer are to blame. They must have known that neither the Tamils nor the Sergeant were passengers bound for Australia. Why did they not see them down at Colombo before leaving her anchorage? We hope the magistracy of the Australian port will have an opportunity of enquiring into the matter.

IN Liverpool, at St. Anthony's School, a schoolboy, sitting on a bench, in attempting to pick up a paper from the floor, put his pen in his breast pocket, stooped and fell on the floor. The weight of his body fell on the point of the pen, and the nib pierced the heart—and the boy died in agony.

Was the pen a regular stylus, or what? Or the boy was too delicate a rose for the elbowing and crushing of our work-day world? So it was well for him to retire before the commencement of the race.

Nevertheless, there is danger in the modern instrument for inscribing on paper, though this is the first instance of a man literally killed by a pen. A more serious source of mischief is the multiplication of pins and needles. We mean no pun: Let the *Pioneer* be comforted, we are not going to pick its pocket. We always contemplated with uneasiness the many saw-mills for manufacturing of these minute things of potential mischief on Great Britain and also here. What numbers of these articles they must turn out! How carelessly must they be consumed and wasted and lost, to keep up the demand so as to maintain the great manufacturing centres! What hundreds must be left about in wrong places! Pins in the past were not only costly and few but also rude and heavy—made like nails—and hence less dangerous on the whole. But now—days they are fine and sharp and a real peril, we fancy. The danger from whalebone and steel props of ladies' busts and figures is recognized from the injuries and accidents that occurred from time to time. We would warn the gentler sex to beware of the more insidious enemy that in these days are allowed to swarm about and cling to their fair persons. There have been victims too, though not so many as we might expect. There are women so thoughtless as to keep pins in their mouths; what wonder that some should forget all about it and unconsciously swallow them! Pins have been found in the stomach and intestines of women who have died of the most horrible colic and gangrene.

It is no use warning women of the danger to which they are exposed. Fashion almost drives them to incur it. The present mode of dressing must be changed before there is any chance for them.

than once in his report. "It is matter for regret," says he, "that Imperial exigencies do not admit of a larger expenditure upon the development of its [of the Province] resources. The effect of the financial pressure is seen in the want of progress in public works. The work done under the head of 'Civil Buildings' was trifling compared with the requirements of the Province. The accommodation provided for public offices is in several places inadequate or unsuitable; but the want of funds prevents this defect from being remedied. This is, however, a much less serious matter than the inadequate provision for communications. There are several new roads for which projects are complete and others which have been surveyed. No work has been done on them for want of funds." In another place, it is said in the same strain, "Forests will in time yield a magnificent revenue if not starved in establishments and communications."

To return to the retrospect. In 1862 Sir Richard Temple remarked, "Nothing can be a stronger proof of the backwardness of knowledge than the fact that in a city like Nagpur, there could not be found even one Native fit to undertake scholastic duty." This city now boasts of two Colleges and two High Schools of its own, while at Jubulpore there is another admirable College and there are several High Schools elsewhere. Every Department, except the Public Works and Forest Departments, can now be manned by Natives born of the Province, so that the employment of foreigners has been for years forbidden. We need not go into the details of educational progress, or those of the progress of medical institution, but they are unmistakable all round, except in the matter of Technical Education which was only faintly shadowed forth in dim glimmer in 1862.

In regard to Local Self Government, it is curious and indeed highly interesting to observe that, while its results in the advanced districts of Bengal are not without misgivings, the policy has been a perfect success in the relatively backward Central Provinces. "The Central Provinces," says Mr. Mackenzie, "backward though they may be in many respects, stand now in the very forefront of the provinces of India in this matter of Local Self-Government." There is no complaint of friction either amongst the local authorities themselves, or with the district officials. The charge of indifference to sanitation, or of over-attention to education which has been levelled against the Bengal Municipalities, does not lie here. Indeed, as respects Education, the great attention paid by the Municipalities and District Councils towards the advancement of education, is regarded as a merit instead of being discouraged and condemned, as in our Province. The Chief Commissioner's remarks on this subject are indeed highly gratifying. The work done by the District Councils and Local Boards has been, says he, praiseworthy. There are gentlemen in almost all districts who take great interest in the work, and there has been a good deal of life and energy displayed. Their relations with officials are frank and friendly. The expenditure on Education is being systematised and most of the Councils have done excellent work in this Department. The important subject of village sanitation has not been neglected. Similar life and energy are displayed by many of the Municipal Committees. There has been a larger expenditure on matters connected with the public health and convenience; more liberal grants have been made to schools and educa-

tion generally; there has been improvement in other directions, and for these results thanks are recorded in the report to the members of the Municipal Committees.

The retrospect which we have thus summarized, shows progress all along the line. That the next quarter of a century will show an equally rapid rate of progress, is not to be expected, but the Chief Commissioner has faith in the capacity of further onward progress. The concluding part of Mr. Mackenzie's report is of great importance and contains a strong appeal to the Imperial Government for more liberal treatment in regard to the distribution of funds between the two Governments. The Chief Commissioner thus concludes. "That the Central Provinces will continue to advance in material prosperity and in enlightenment the Chief Commissioner entertains no sort of doubt. The rate of progress can hardly be as rapid in the future as in the past, but it cannot fail to be real and steady if the Local Administration is not unduly hampered by want of funds. The Chief Commissioner believes that there is no part of India where a judicious expenditure of capital upon Roads, Light Tramways, and Forest Establishments, would bring in a more sure and speedy return than in the Central Provinces; and he trusts that some fair share of the increased revenue resulting from resettlement of the land may be made over to the Administration hereafter for utilization in this way." The Chief Commissioner means in right earnest to work out "a scheme for fully utilising in a systematic way the limited funds placed at his disposal under the new Provincial Contract." This will secure, as Mr. Mackenzie hopes, some steady if not very rapid progress, and if on a resettlement of the land revenue, the Local Administration obtains some liberal concessions from the Government of India, the Central Provinces will enter on another career of similarly satisfactory progress.

#### \* THE NATIONAL CONGRESS.

THE event of the week is the National Congress. This is the third annual gathering of the voluntary association of the representatives of political thought and action of the Empire, as well as its grandest and most important. The institution is evidently gathering strength—the movement certainly is gaining ground. The inauguration of the Congress in 1885 in Bombay, by many of the most eminent of the citizens of the Western Presidency with representatives from Madras and from Bengal and Upper India, was at least an interesting experiment. It was at Calcutta last year that the repetition of the business under better auspices, with a whole host of delegates from all parts, truly established the thing and challenged the notice of the entire public and the Government. And now the third year's Congress marks another great stride in progress. It more than ever fixes its character as an imperial institution. It was rather a hazardous experiment to try Madras so early as the *locale* of the annual gathering. Not only was the Southern Presidency discredited as a backward Province, but it was feared whether the other Provinces would care to send their representatives to that nook and corner, so far out of the way and away from the centres of population and human interest. But Madras has nobly vindicated her enlightenment and political earnestness. The "Benighted" are the best of the whole lot. At the same time, the country—the Continent in fact—has, with commendable spirit, responded to the call. As many as six hundred Delegates have assembled. The visitors from Bengal—over fifty—outnumber those from any other Province, the Madrascans alone excepted. There may be disappointment felt on this head as the enthusiasts had reckoned upon a larger assemblage, and Madras had made enormous preparations, but such as it is, the numerical strength is not to be despised. It is something that so

many have been found to gather, at no small sacrifice, at such a call of duty, without hope of official favor, perhaps in some cases in the teeth of official discouragement, if not of official frowns, to come so far to the surf-beaten beach of the Coromandel Coast. The Bengal argosy encountered rough weather on the 25th, but luckily our brave Baboos' stomachs stood the trial. The chief interest of the Congress lies in the meeting of so many representatives of our endless races and creeds, communities and classes. The business is foregone conclusion, being, as a matter of course, the formulation of the well-known demands of the Native Press and Native Associations. The most important feature of the meeting—that which distinguishes the present from previous years, and which aggrandises the institution and ensures the movement success—is the broadening of its basis and strengthening of its foundations, by the multiplication of its personal as well as ethnic elements. Notwithstanding the continued defection of the Northern Mussulmans, some Mahomedan delegates from Bengal, Behar and Upper India have attended, and many more from Bombay and Madras. We regret that at the last moment Prince Hormoos Shah of the Mysore family at Calcutta was prevented by illness to embark. To him and to Mr. Hamid Ali of Lucknow (a man of irreproachable character and ardent patriotism) and others of their persuasion who have gone, the promoters must be always indebted. Mir Humayun Jah Bahadoor, who early subscribed the munificent sum of Rs. 5000 towards the funds for the reception of the Delegates, has been a tower of strength to the cause. In the President of the year, we have the head of one of the highest Mahomedan families in Bombay. In the attendance of the Maharaja of Vizianagram, the Congress had the moral support of one of the leading Chiefs of the South as of one of the most accomplished and intellectual of all India.

By far the most noteworthy characteristic of the Congress, is the adhesion, for the first time, of important sections of the population which had hitherto held aloof. Thanks to the statesmanship of Mr. J. D. White, the President of the Southern Eurasian Association, our Eurasian fellow-subjects were ably represented. Mr. White was here at Calcutta, engaged on the Public Service Commission, but he wrote from here to his people and suggested three names, and we are happy to find that his friends have loyally adopted his advice. In Mr. Gantz, barrister, as Eurasian delegate, the deliberations of the Congress gained in strength. But not only the Eurasians, the Europeans themselves are represented. The gulf is bridged by Mr. Eardley Norton, of the High Court bar, and the mission of peace befits none so well as the worthy son of the celebrated John Bruce Norton, lawyer, publicist and poet, the Pioneer of every Progress in Madras. A fellowship commenced under such auspices, early showed fruit. On the 29th, besides four local Rajas, several members of the Covenanted Civil Service were present. We may here add that besides being entertained at the Cosmopolitan Club, the Delegates had a party given in their honor by Mr. Norton. The Governor also entertains them today.

The first or preliminary gathering was held on Tuesday the 27th, for the formal reception of the Delegates and the election of the President. The Chair was taken by the veteran statesman, Sir Madhav Rao. In one of his finished speeches, he bade the representatives a hearty welcome. The Knight is no ready speaker like the other veteran who presided last year at Calcutta, Mr. Dadabhoy Naoroji, but he is a brilliant writer, his periods will tell throughout the land and even in Great Britain. He claimed for the movement a natural character. It was, after all, the work of the British Government—at any rate the effect of the wholesome British connection, he contended. Then Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, seconded by the Hon'ble Subramani Iyer, and supported by Raja Rampral Singh, proposed that Mr. Budruddeen Tyebji be elected President of the Congress. The motion was carried by acclamation. The next day, the sitting of the Congress commenced under Mr. Tyebji's presidency. In an able address, delivered with emphasis, and listened to with rapt interest, the President vindicated the Congress's representative character. He wisely claimed for it no higher footing—and higher was not needed, if indeed anything higher could be—than the representation of the intelligence and education of the empire. Therein he took up an unassailable position. As a Mussulman himself, he tolerably disposed of the Mahomedan isolation,

reducing its proportions and explaining its meaning. He contended that, with the exception of one part of the country, the whole Mahomedan community sympathised with the Congress. Amid continual cheers, he concluded with an appeal to his hearers to be moderate, to be patient and persevering, and to be united.

#### GOOD HOMER SOMETIMES NODS.

When I saw the lynx-eyed unerring literary Leviathan of *Reis and Rayyet* nodding, not once, or twice, but on three different occasions, in the course of the last three months, I involuntarily asked myself—Is the puissant son of Bhuradwaj aging apace? The inexactness and inaccuracy I allude to, are very slight and, if found in any paper other than *Reis*, would have been passed over. But

In beauties faults conspicuous grow  
The smallest speck is seen on snow.

In your impression of the 22nd October last, you extracted the obituary notice of Dr. Ram Das Sen that appeared in the *Tribune* and said that there were as many mistakes as the lines written. You, of course, corrected most of them, but not the most glaring one. Dr. Ram Das Sen had never been to Europe nor had he travelled largely in India, and yet the writer of the notice in question said so and you, a walking Cyclopædia, by not giving him the lie, indirectly corroborated the statement that has indeed no foundation in fact. Your sapient contemporary of the *Bengaler*, who has the unenviable knack of putting the saddle on the wrong horse and who is always indebted to his imagination for his facts, was guilty of the mistake committed by the writer in the *Tribune*, but Mr. Bannerjee considers it *infra dig* to eat his word and so he does not think it worth his while to correct the mistake when pointed out by the *Bangabasi*, even though he knew that appearing as the statement did immediately after the death of Baboo Ram Das Sen, it might have dissuaded the Pandits of distant towns and villages from attending his Srad ceremony. In the same issue, you took the same writer to task for disposing of the great Sindhi—the Hon'ble Dayaram Jetmul, without affording any clue to his position and personality. Mr. Jetmul was a self-made man, a true man, an excellent man and a Hindu withal. His life was a noble example which our young men might well try to imitate as well as be proud of. But seeing that a pretty long account of the life of the deceased had appeared two months before in the *Sind Times* published in his native town, and was transcribed in the *Hope* of the 4th September, you can't be justified in taking exception to the meagre account given by the *Tribune*.

In your issue of October 29, p. 497, column 2, you said "We regret that young Rajendra was yesterday sentenced to 12 hours' simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 51. The fine was at first fixed at Rs. 50 but on counsel's begging hard of the Court, 1 rupee was added to the fine to make the sentence appealable." Sentence of imprisonment is appealable, whenever accompanied with fine, be the amount thereof however trifling it may. Then, in the name of Prophet Figs, what on earth was the necessity of the counsel's begging hard for the increase of the fine by Rupee one?

In your issue of Dec. 10, you observed "Dr. Mahendralal is the 4th Native Sheriff of Calcutta." You ought not to have forgotten that Nawab Ashgar Ali Diler Jung Bahadur, C.I.E., was a Sheriff for a few months, seeing that you editors were, if I am not mistaken, treated by him on the eve of his retirement from the exalted office. We have had thus five native Sheriffs—Raja Digumbur Mitra, C.I.E., Manockjee Rustumjee, Raja Durga Churn Law, C.I.E., Nawab Ashgar Ali Dilar Jung Bahadur, C.I.E., Mahendralal Sircar, M.D., C.I.E.

#### AN ADMIRER.

"We confess we forgot the Nawab—for the very sufficient reason (as our "Admirer" will allow) that we were not treated by the beggar. We don't know who else consumed the *Beigun ki bharta*. We are not among the Durbaris of Bamboo Killa.—Young Rajendra was not really punished with imprisonment. Though the Magistrate was understood to have at first given out expressions to that effect, he had the wisdom to content himself with a fine.—We know all about Ram Das Sen, and our amusement was great when we read of his varied and profound scholarship and of his travels in Europe, and intended to notice the points, but we only half accomplished our purpose. Our note or leaderette had long been lying unfinished for want of room, till at last one day, in stress of matter, it was utilised as it was. But the main purpose of our writing was served, which was not to write exhaustively but to give an illustration.—ED. R. & R.

THE Winter Quarters of P. T. Barnum's great show and menagerie! Bridgeport, Connecticut, was, on Sunday, the 20th November, destroyed by fire. It was a complete wreck within half an hour. Here is a description of the scene :—

"The first intimation of fire was given by the roaring of the lions and tigers, and the struggling of the elephants to free themselves from the chains with which they were secured for the night. Six watchmen, who were on duty at the time, endeavoured to stop the progress of the flames, but without avail. The fear of the animals within, which were mad with terror, prevented a near approach to the burning pile; and within half an hour the entire buildings were consumed. Three elephants, including the well-known 'Sacred White Elephant,' perished in the flames. Thirty-six elephants broke from their fastenings, and dashed through the sides of the burning buildings, trumpeting loudly in their terror. Six of these and a large African hippopotamus rushed into the streets, their bodies scorched and blackened by the flames, presenting a sickening appearance. The remaining thirty elephants and one lion escaped across the country towards Fairfield and Caston. Their appearance caused great alarm amongst the inhabitants, many of whom, residing at the west end of Bridgeport, barred the doors and windows of their houses. The lion was discovered late at night in a barn devouring a cow which he had killed, and was immediately shot. Several persons are reported to have been injured by the escaped elephants. Besides the lions, tigers, and other large quadrupeds all the trained animals, stallions, ponies, &c., and a large number of monkeys and cats perished in the flames. All the properties of the show were also destroyed, the loss being estimated at 700,000 dollars. One of the watchmen is missing. It is thought the fire was the work of an incendiary, as the watchman, who first discovered the outbreak, was knocked down and stunned while giving the alarm. Nearly all the elephants which escaped have been captured. Among those burned is 'Alice' or 'Jumbo's Wife.'"

All the animals of Barnum's menagerie are said to have been lost, excepting the bears housed in a separate quarter. The performing horses and ponies also escaped, being in the country. The total loss is estimated at 1,000,000 dollars.

How the grand showman will take it, we wonder. He is strong enough, morally and pecuniarily, to stand a good deal of phlebotomy. He is used to disappointments and reverses. He has had his museum itself burnt down before. But now he is grown old and the magnitude of the disaster is colossal. Twenty-five lacs of Rupees is not a joke even to a millionaire. Otherwise, with his turn for enterprise and his passion for gigantic operations, he might almost welcome the accident as an original and a worthy advertisement, similar to his engaging Jenny Lind on a fabulous fee, or his sending an embassy to negotiate a treaty for the purchase of the White Elephant of Siam (worshipped as a living god in that land,) though on a grander scale than ever. Well for him if the menagerie was insured! He will smile at the fury of Agni—the unconscious tool of Barnum! Perhaps, no office even in Wall Street could be found to undertake the risk of insuring a single house property of so much value. In that case, the accident is enough to shake the genial showman—the calamity might be crushing. For the sake of the grand old man, who has doubtless been a considerable character and a benefactor to his species, we hope it is not so bad. If the worse should come to the worst, all we can do is to address him, as all others, in the sentiment of the Greek Anthology—

- All the world's a stage, a show :  
Then learn thy part  
With all thy heart,  
Or bear the burden of thy woe.

OUR winter visitors, the Duke of Schleswig-Holstein, Sir Howard and Lady Elphinstone and Sir Horace and Lady Rumbold, had been to Hyderabad as guests of the Resident. The *Pioneer*, which notices scornfully the enthusiasm of the reception of His Serene Highness at that Court, says that the Duke is "in quest of big game." If so, his instinct has not misdirected him. All through the century, there has not been a bigger one than poor "Nizzy." Our contemporary feels as a protectionist in the business. It is in ecstasy that

"the Viceroy, altogether to his honour, declines to tax the native States, in favour of everybody,—somebodies and nobodies alike,—upon whom the good people at home are pleased to confer a letter of introduction to the authorities in this country, coupled with a free shooting ticket over other people's preserves."

The *Pioneer* would doubtless like to preserve the large game for the sport of the Nimrods at home. It was in the same spirit of qualified benevolence—witness a remarkable passage in the Hon'ble Mr. Frederick Shore's *Notes*, in which the author adds his own personal testimony in proof of his assertion—it was in that spirit that the Native States were maintained and some measure of good faith preserved with them, until the inauguration, by the bolder genius of Dalhousie, of

the sternly simple and charming old rule of the famous British hero Rob Roy.

Our contemporary is not content with dissuading the Native Chiefs. It sneers at the Duke as "an extinct volcano." That is adding insult to injury.

Supposing any native paper had written as the Allahabad paper had done, what row would have been kicked over it, what homilies would we have been treated to, by the well-meaning and moderate, what indignant protests from the more foolish or the more inimical against the bad taste of the natives! In how many quarters it would have done duty for an irresistible argument for a gag on the Native Press!

Sir Horace does not come on a mere pleasure trip. He is said to have a financial mission. If rumour is to be believed, as a sportsman he introduced himself as the thin end of the wedge. He is truly after big game. He comes as a dun, in fact, to realise, if he can, a little matter of ten lacs. The Rumbolds are well known names in India, and they have earned a notoriety in history. We may look out for a revival of the scandals of the house of Palmer of Hyderabad. There is little fear, however, of Lord Dufferin proving a Wellesley.

THE "unspeakable" Baboo of Cuttack has had his own demonstration at home, if he could not attend the great gathering of this week in Madras. We received this telegram—

"Yesterday (26th) house of Babu Dinonath Banerjee was decorated with two national flags; six salutes were given for honour of Madras National Congress by him, they were as high sounding as by cannon. It was immediately telegraphed to Madras Congress. Many visitors were present."

Baboo Deno Nath is nothing if not original.

THERE was a derangement of "copy" in our account of the reception of the Tipperah Prince at the Railway station. As published, a few sentences after the first paragraph have been left out. Paras. 2 and 3 form the last portion of the account of the proceedings at the station and ought to be read immediately before the final little para. announcing the reception by the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor.

WE have much pleasure in drawing attention to the new advertisement on p. 609. On Thursday next, Mr. Locke Richardson, an eminent Shakespearean student and living presenter of the works of the immortal Poet, will recite *Julius Caesar*. We hope there will be a bumper house. Such an opportunity comes not often even to the most favoured lands, for the precise reason that gifts and accomplishments as Mr. Richardson's are exceedingly uncommon. It is only by an accident as it were—an accident luckless perhaps to him, though welcome to us—that such a master in the line ever strays to such a provincial place at best as India—the howling wilderness of the world of the Higher Civilisation. When the opportunity comes, it is plainly our interest to make the most of it. There is enough culture in the country, in both the European and Indian communities, to appreciate a rendering of Shakespeare. The English-speaking natives, specially the elder generation who remember the teaching of the well-known critic Major D. L. Richardson, the acting of Mr. Stoequeler (still living in London) at the old *Sans Souci* and Chowringhee Theatres, and the readings of the late Rev. Mr. J. M. Bellew, and of the late Mr. James Hume, at the Bethune Society, are, to their credit, passionately fond of Shakespeare. We hope they will muster strong on the occasion, they and their boys who are receiving a liberal education, so as to induce Mr. Richardson to make a longer stay than he contemplates among us. We venture to promise them a rich and elevated entertainment. Mr. Richardson is a Canadian, who, having established the highest reputation in the Dominion and the Great Republic, had sailed on an expedition to Australia, whence he goes to Europe, taking in India on the way. The same success attended him in the New and the Newer Continent on the lands washed by the Western man as on the shores of the Southern Ocean. He went—read—and conquered. We have before us his American testimonials, and we have seen his cuttings from the Australian papers. The Press in both countries, is a full-throated harmonious chorus of rapturous delight. Yet, there is discrimination and individuality in the criticisms. How could it be otherwise, considering the reputation of the papers, including the first journals in New York and Boston, Melbourne and Sydney? Besides, many famous men, Professors and



Bishops, poets and critics, like the Right Rev. Dr. Huntington, Bishop Potter, the Rev. Dr. Bellows, E. P. Whipple and Robert C. Winthrop, Oliver Wendell Holmes (the "Autocrat" here, there and everywhere) and others, have *in propria persona* expressed their commendation. We will mention only two instances. The Hon. President Andrew D. White of Cornell University, speaks of "Mr. Richardson as a gentleman of true scholarly culture," and Professor Henry F. Osborn of Princeton College, after attending to Richardson's success in his recitals, states that "he lent very substantial aid to the department of English literature in the interest which he aroused among the students by his representations of" Shakespeare. Here is a hint to heads of colleges and students—specially Asiatic students groping through the text in an obsolete dialect of a foreign tongue—to realise an English poet of some three centuries back's conception of Greek and Roman heroes, mediæval madmen, Saxon barbarians, and punsters and buffoons of a lost era.

Let no one wrong himself with the idea that a recital is but a dull prosy affair. It is a very different thing, specially with Mr. Richardson, who uses no book nor manuscript and has a fine elastic voice which he changes to suit character. The play selected will afford the best opportunity for a great elocutionist that he is said to be. *Julius Cæsar* abounds in declamation, in especial. In our judgment, the best specimens of political eloquence in English are to be found in that play.

WE have to apologise to Mrs. Archer for not having yet duly acknowledged her courtesy. Her *At Homes* are the speciality of this Calcutta season. Mrs. Archer is a worthy spouse of her husband, combining simplicity with ladylike dignity. The main attraction at these parties is of course her husband's works, but of late there has been a notable addition in the shape of an angel descended from one of the P. & O. Co's. steamers. She calls Mr. Archer "pa" and Mrs. Archer "ma," and seems one of his own conceptions of female loveliness in color—embodied and started into life by a Galatea sort of miracle. So fine an English flower is rarely to be met with in the more or less acclimatised British society of the East. Such ruddy health! such a profusion of roses scattered about the head! such large lustrous blue eyes, beaming with innocence and enjoyment of the Good and the Beautiful, and yet with an arch intelligence that might be embarrassing to the prosy! such form and grace, such life! And withal such delight in nature in all her phases and in all climes! such appreciation of art and yet such reverence for it as to keep her from dabbling in it—the almost inevitable temptation of one of her surroundings! and last not least, such native kindliness of soul for God's creatures in every zone!

One shade the more, one ray the less  
Had half impair'd the nameless grace  
Which waves in every raven tress  
Or softly lightens o'er her face,  
Where thoughts serenely sweet express  
How pure, how dear their dwelling-place.

And on that cheek and o'er that brow  
So soft, so calm, yet eloquent,  
The smiles that win, the tints that glow  
But tell of days in goodness spent,  
A maid at peace with all below,  
A heart whose love is innocent.

Such is woman

Fresh from the beauty, and the bliss  
Of English liberty!

Mr. Archer's work it is superfluous to praise. He has strayed to the East with a finished reputation. Before he came here, he had been living ten years in London as one of the fashionable painters. He is a Scotch Academician of many years standing, and but for Southern jealousy would long since have been enrolled among the Forty Immortals of British Art. His works exhibited at the different shows have been praised by competent judges, and—illustrated in successive issues of Blackburn's *Academy Notes*—have earned him fame throughout the world. His portraits are not only accurate but life-like; above all, they have the highest quality of portrait-painting in bringing out the inner being of the subject. What abundance of soul is in the picture of our late Public Works Minister! Sir Theodore Hope has been reimbursed, if he has paid for his portrait its weight in gold. The gaze Mr. Archer has given him might do duty for a likeness of Alexander

the Great. The picture of Lady Dufferin is a gem of art. It is flattering no doubt, but not by any means false. An artist should take his subjects at their best. "Paint me as I am, with all my scars" is the expression of a grim Puritan and a hypocrite, both which Cromwell abundantly was, all the white-washers from Carlyle downwards notwithstanding. There is no mistaking Lady Dufferin at the most casual glance. The picture is thoroughly true as a work of art—not as a harsh photograph. If Mr. Archer has painted her as young by a few years or at her freshness of form and hue in the Himalayas, he has not only used a sound discretion but shown his artistic instinct. What is the good of a Fine Art of portraiture that embalms the disagreeable moods and indifferent health of its subjects? We are sure Lord Dufferin will thank the painter for recalling to him his consort in her days of fascinating bridehood.

## REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1887.

### THE CENTRAL PROVINCES NOW AND 25 YEARS AGO.

To his last Administration Report of the Central Provinces, Mr. Mackenzie, Chief Commissioner, appends an interesting review of the state of the Province a quarter of a century ago. The first Annual Report of the Central Provinces was submitted in 1862 by Sir Richard Temple, and a glance at its statistics reveals an extent of progress at which his successor of our day may well exultingly say that Sir Richard would now hardly recognize the Province which he once knew so well. Whether as regards the increase of population; the opening out of the country to trade by the improvement of communications, the development of the import and export trade, or the expansion of the revenue, and of education; the evidences of progress are marked in all directions. In 1862, the population was estimated at less than nine millions, which had grown to more than eleven millions and a half at the census of 1881. Satisfactory as is this as an indication of what the last quarter of a century has achieved, there is still a large margin of improvement in this respect left for the future to accomplish, the distribution of population even at the increased figures of 1881 being only 101.9 per square mile. The land revenue shows only an increase of about ten lakhs of rupees, but this comparatively small increment is explained by the fact that the land revenue assessment made for periods of 20 to 30 years has only now begun to fall in for revision, so that, as the Chief Commissioner observes, "the increase of revenue to be derived under this head is still a matter of the future." In the Excise, Opium, Stamps, Law and Justice, and Forest, the revenue has already improved by leaps and bounds, and promises to increase still more in the future with the general advance of the country. As to communications, Sir Richard Temple wrote in 1862 of "three Trunk Lines of road on which attention should be concentrated." These have now been superseded, writes Mr. Mackenzie in his present report, by the great Indian Peninsula, Warora State, and Nagpur-Bengal Railways, and the Head-quarters station of every district is now either on one of these Railway lines, or within convenient reach of it. In the matter of communications, however, the Chief Commissioner justly observes, much remains to be done; the hands of the Local Governments, here as in other Provinces, have been much too closely tied by Imperial exigencies. Mr. Mackenzie seems bitterly to feel this difficulty and refers to it more

# EMERALD THEATRE

BEADON STREET.

Saturday—the 31st December—Last  
Day of '87, at 8½ P. M. sharp.

Another Special Double Programme in Me-  
mory of the Parting in honor of the  
Coming Guest,

The Old Year and the New Year.

## THE ENCHANTED TREE.

AND

NOBINTCPISHINI.

SOLODIER ... Mr. A. Mastapha.

Next day, Sunday, New Year's Day,  
1888, at 6 p. m.

The ever-new, the ever-charming drama of  
dramas, drama for all times  
and ages.

## NILDARPAN.

With the strong cast of its best days.

The public are earnestly solicited to secure  
tickets earlier to avoid disappointment as  
happened on the last three occasions.

G. C. Ghose, Manager.

## DALHOUSIE INSTITUTE

Thursday Evening January 5th,

In the presence of His Excellency the Viceroy  
and the Countess of Dufferin,

Mr. Locke Richardson will recite

Shakespeare's Tragedy of Julius Caesar.

Stalls ... RS 5  
Reserved Seats ... 3  
Back Seats ... 2

Places secured at HAROLD & CO'S.

APPLICATIONS to be accompanied with  
copies of testimonials, will be received by  
the undersigned up to 4 P. M. of Tuesday, the  
3rd of January, for the appointment of Secre-  
tary to the Corporation of Calcutta, which will  
be vacant from the 1st April 1888.

The salary of the new Secretary will be  
Rs. 600 rising in four years to Rs. 800 by  
annual increments of Rs. 50.

ROBERT TURNBULL,  
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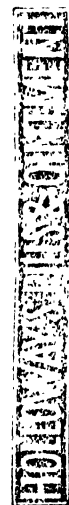
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### OPINION OF THE PRESS.

Dr. S. C. Mookerjee, the editor of what is undoubtedly one of the ablest papers in the country in point of literary power is the author of a pleasant little book of Travels in East Bengal.....The author is master of a racy style of English which many an Englishman may envy. Humorous descriptions and caustic satire enliven every page. There is throughout a vigour and freshness of style that lends a charm to the veriest commonplace. If there were, however, a higher purpose in the publication of this book than to lighten the weary evening hours of the ordinary reader, we confess to a feeling that the author has failed in such an object. We are afraid there is not poetry enough in us to body forth in imagination the beauty of the scenes which the author has described in his voyages to and fro between Dacca and Tipperah. Humourist as he is Dr. Mookerjee will remind us of the words of the poet that the point of a "jest lies more in the ear of him that hears it than in the tongue of him that utters it." As with the jest so is it with the description. We do not say that the charge is unfounded. Prosaic as we are, drudging away at the desk, perhaps it is that we lack capacity to follow in imagination what the author has doubtless delineated with an admirable pen.

One of the chief impressions that a reader will receive from a glance at the book is the somewhat strained relation between the Babus and the Anglo-Indians. The author pours a flood of ridicule upon the lordly airs of our "rulers." He hits hard indeed in his account of the Colonel at whist enduring a Babu looking on, when on board the steamer, and of the whiteman's condescension in bowing to the black nigger. Happily we in the South are not so badly off in our commerce with the representatives of Western civilization. In spite of several instances of conflict and misunderstanding Englishmen and Hindus pull on agreeably together. But the author, notwithstanding his involuntary feeling of aloof-

ness from the European, is no stranger to the blessings for which the West has laid us in debt. He has a keen appreciation of the enjoyments of this Westernized life of ours. He looks for ever forward and casts no longing lingering look behind at the things with which we have shaken hands and parted. His heart is in the continuance of British supremacy in the East. And agitation is his utmost weapon for the maintenance of his rights. But he will have nothing with spurious agitation. We extract below a paragraph of excellent advice to his brethren of the press. [Extract.]

The author recounts his adventure with the Railway officials of Sealdah with considerable humour. We feel an irresistible temptation to quote it *in extenso*, but space forbids. How the greenback was no legal tender, why silver of the Calcutta mint was wanted and how the currency question stood stiff and frowning despite the Editors and Magistrates who had accompanied the author to bid him good-bye at the station, and how again with the advent of the Justice of the Peace all objection to receiving the currency note vanished, are all narrated in a style that is fittingly characterized only by the word "delightful." In another place the author introduces the reader to the Hindu belief in the auspicious hour for starting on a journey in language of such playful raillery that we make no apology for quoting it. [Extract.]

The untoward circumstance of the day, the event to which we have already alluded namely the refusal of the Railway officials to receive the currency-note in payment of the fare, elicits the following humorous confession of human weakness. [Extract.]

The author has some trenchant criticism on the insolence of the Englishman, which makes him inaccessible to the complaints of extortion or plunder by their menials. They are too absorbed to know all that passes about them and the wrongs that are committed in their names are unnoticed as mere trifles for they have rarely any idea of their magnitude. It is only too well known throughout the country how blackmail in the shape of money or provisions is levied upon the inhabitants when the Collector is on tour. It would be difficult to believe the thing could go on under his very nose without his connivance if we did not know his exclusiveness and his distaste for mixing with the people.

The author devotes the greater part of the book to a description of the people and the external aspect of the country that he passed through in his two trips to Tipperah from Calcutta and back. He has a good deal to say about the customs of some of the people he becomes acquainted with. He makes a discovery of the debris of a Portuguese colony in Tipperah that has become debased in morality and sunk in superstition. Although there is not much in the book that is instructive to the serious student, the grace of diction and the ease of style carry the reader pleasantly through. It would be difficult to rescue such a subject as he has chosen from dullness without his extraordinary command of language. We cannot promise more than a brief span of life to the book. It will prove what is abundantly clear to the readers of the *Reis and Rayyet* that the author is an adept in English composition. He is a lover of nature and he paints scenes and situations with an artist's pencil.—*The Hindu*, November 7, 1887.

.....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, not of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its Chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native Press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold. The above seems to be a curious passage not to be found in a book of travels; and appears

to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of looting shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple"—where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the Doctor advises his fellow-scribes not to be Phriseses, righteous over-much, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the wide spreading rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts, and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The Doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evident in his descriptions of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the Lawlesses, which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Then only defence is flight or decent, and the latter is then justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible. The author is impartial in his censures. There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the minor horn." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly needed lessons. *The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

"TRAVELS IN BENGAL. Such is the title of a most interesting little work published a short time ago. Its author is Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*, the most original, cleverly written and interesting journal in India. Babu Sambhu Chunder is one of the veteran Indian writers in English. He is the master of a most happy, easy pleasant style, which you can easily make out from amongst the writings of a hundred different men. In easy humorous writing Babu Sambhu Chunder has no rival among the Indian contemporaries. He won his first laurels, we believe, by his writings in his own periodical, the *Mookerjee's Magazine*, now long defunct. In this magazine articles of great learning and excellence appeared, mostly from the pen of Babu Sambhu Chunder. He has written several other booklets. His *Crosses of the Mutiny*; *Mr. Watson, Lord Canning and the Income Tax*; *The Career of an Indian Princess*; *Her Highness the Late Saundra Begum of Bhopal*; and the *Prince in India and to India* are publications which attracted considerable notice. His latest production "Travels in Bengal" is a work of great merit. It is at once a most faithful and interesting picture of natural scenery and life in Bengal, although Mr. Mookerjee does not profess to write a picture of Bengal life and uses his pencil in its portraiture only in passing. The dedication is characteristic. [Extract.]

The "Travels" are travels in East Bengal, travels and voyages between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah. We do not believe many people in this side of India know that there is such an independent State as Tipperah. But nevertheless such a state exists. We will give here a summary of its history in the words of Mr. Mookerjee. He writes. [Ex-

tract.] Mr. Mookerjee was Dewan of Independent Tipperah for some five years in all between 1877 and 1881. The travels are an account of his voyages to and from Tipperah.

Those who have travelled in Bengal, particularly in its Eastern districts, which are the districts described in Mookerjee's book, will bear him out in his statement that Lower Bengal is not stale, flat and unprofitable, that, on the contrary, she is the beautifullest country in the world. She has no high mountains, but she has rivers apparently as vast as the sea, to make her scenery grand and majestic. She has a hundred rivers ever overflowing with water, thousands of transparent lakes covered with the lily and a hundred beautiful water-flowers, thousands of seas of ever-waving paddy fields, thousands of clusters of bamboo and of great trees dressed in beautiful creepers adorning the river banks, to make her the loveliest country in the world. Even a Bengali needs to see and travel Bengal to adequately know her thousand winking charms. For a foreigner it is well nigh impossible to get even an approximate idea of what they are like from description, however true and faithful. Let us hear what our author has to say on the subject. We read. [Extract.] A paddy sea is thus minutely described. [Extract.]

We will quote a passage of another character. [Extract.]

We could coll many such gems. But space forbids it. We will, however, quote some passages of another kind. Our traveller, though old in years, is evidently young in heart, for no one in the romantic age of youth could be more appreciative of female charms than our traveller. In every other page you find our author describing in terms of enthusiasm some rural girl or woman of beauty. [Extract.] In the next page we find our traveller's attention [Extract.]

There is the description, physical and moral, of a Colonel, which we cannot resist the temptation of reproducing, although the article has already exceeded the usual length. [Extract.]

We have now given extracts enough to show that the little book of travels is most delightful reading. It contains graphic descriptions of natural scenery, faithful portraiture of men and manners, and happy, good humoured observations on them. There is not an ill-natured or unkind word in the whole book—it overflows in every page with the milk of human kindness. Every observation testifies to the author being a keen observer of men and things, as an example of which we can mention the instructive and interesting chapter on the Native Christians of Portuguese extraction in Tipperah. Again, although the book does not pretend to deal with life in Bengal, the glimpses of that life we find in it are very considerable and pleasant. We will now conclude by recommending the book to all who may wish to spend a few hours amidst happy thoughts and pleasant pictures.

S. K. C.

*The Tribune*, Nov. 26, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious; he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree. "A naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight "she had such large languishing eyes." But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs, Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec. 1887.

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Business Communications (post paid) to be directed to "The Manager," and Literary Communications and books and pamphlets (carriage paid) to "The Editor" of "Reis & Rayyet."

OFFICE: 1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Street, Calcutta.

THE  
S T A N D A R D

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

£6,450,000

ANNUAL REVENUE

£880,000

Bonus distributed to Assurers

£3,500,000



LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1825.

GOVERNOR---His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, K. T.

NATIVE GENTLEMEN will find this Institution of great service, useful for, Investment, Family Provision, Self-Endowment for old age, and Protection to Partners or Creditors.

SECURITY. Security is the first point to be considered by Assurers, and no Life Office can surpass the STANDARD in this respect.

THE RATES OF PREMIUM---Will be found moderate, and the conditions of a Standard Life Policy are most liberal in every way.

Copies of the last Report, Prospectuses, Forms of Application, and all information regarding the Company's Retirement Scheme (which requires no medical examination, and the subscription for which when commenced at young ages, is very small), the Endowment Schemes, &c., &c., may be obtained on application to any of the Company's Agents in India.

CALCUTTA BRANCH:

GEO. L. KEMP,

27, Dalhousie Square.

Secretary.

















